

A N
E X T R A C T
O F T H E
J O U R N A L

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Rev. Mr. *JOHN WESLEY.*

From *June 29, 1786, to Oct. 24, 1790.*

XXI.

L O N D O N:

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Rev. Mr. JOHN WESLEY'S
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From June 29th, 1786, to October 24th, 1790.

Thursday, June 29, 1786.

I Took a cheerful leave of my affectionate friends at *Epworth*, leaving them much more alive than I found them. About one I preached at *Thorn*, now one of the liveliest places in the circuit, to a numerous congregation: and in the evening at *Doncaster*, I know not that ever I saw this preaching-house filled before. And many of them seemed to feel, as well as hear. It may be, some will bring forth fruit with patience.

Friday 30. I turned aside to *Barnsley*, formerly famous for all manner of wickedness. The people were then ready to tear any Methodist Preacher in pieces. Now not a dog wagged his tongue. I preached near the market-place to a very large congregation, and I believe, the word sunk into many hearts. They seemed to drink in every word. Surely God will have a people in this place.

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Saturday,

Saturday, July 1. I went on to *Bramley*, about four miles from *Sheffield*, where a gentleman has built a neat preaching-house for the poor people, at his own expence. As the notice was short, I had no need to preach abroad. The congregation was deeply serious, while I explained, What it was, to *build upon a rock*, and what, to *build upon the sand*. In the evening I spoke very plain to a crouded audience at *Sheffield*, on *Now it is high time to awake out of sleep*. One of the hearers wrote me a nameless letter upon it. But he could remember nothing of the sermon except, that "The rising early was good for the nerves;"

Sunday 2. I read prayers, preached, and administered the sacrament to six or seven hundred hearers. It was a solemn season. I preached soon after five in the evening on, *There is joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth*. Afterwards I gave an account of the rise of Methodism, (that is, old scriptural Christianity) to the whole congregation, as truth will bear the light, and loves to appear in the face of the sun.

Monday 3. We had our quarterly meeting, followed by a love feast, at which many spoke without reserve: and several of them admirably well; shewing that with the fear of the Lord is understanding.

Tuesday 4. I met the Select Society, most of them walking in glorious liberty. Afterwards I went to *Wentworth-House*, the splendid seat of the late Marquis of *Rockingham*. He lately had forty thousand a year in *England*, and fifteen or twenty thousand in *Ireland*. And what has he now? Six feet of earth.

"A heap of dust is all remains of thee!"

'Tis all thou art: and all the proud shall be."

The situation of the house is very fine. It commands a large and beautiful prospect. Before the house is an open view: behind a few acres of wood, but not laid out with any taste. The green-

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green-houses are large; but I did not observe any thing curious in them. The front of the house is large and magnificent, but not yet finished. The entrance is noble; the saloon exceeding grand, and so are several of the apartments. Few of the pictures are striking: I think none of them to be compared with some in *Fennon-Castle*. The most extraordinary thing I saw was the stables: a square, fit for a royal palace, all built of fine stone, and near as large as the old quadrangle at *Christ Church in Oxford*. But for what use were these built? To shew that the owner had near three-score thousand pounds a year! O how much treasure might he have laid up in heaven, with all this mammon of unrighteousness! About one I preached at *Thorpe*, to three or four times as many as the preaching house would have contained: and in the evening to the well-instructed and well-behaved congregation at *Sheffield*. O what has God wrought in this town! *The leopard now lies down with the kid.*

Wednesday 5. Notice was given, without my knowledge, of my preaching at *Belpar*, eleven miles short of *Derby*. I was nothing glad of this, as it obliged me to quit the turnpike road, to hobble over a miserable common. The people gathered from all parts, were waiting. So I went immediately to the market-place, and standing under a large tree, testified, *This is life eternal, to know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.* The house at *Derby* was thoroughly filled in the evening. As many of the better sort (so called) were there, I explained (what seemed to be more adapted to their circumstances and experience, *This only have I found, That God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions.*

Thursday 6. In going to *Ilston* we were again intangled in miserable roads. We got thither however about eleven. Though the church is large, it was sufficiently crowded. The Vicar read prayers with great earnestness and propriety.

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I preached on, *Her was are ways of pleasantness*, and the people seemed all ear. Surely good will be done in this place: though it is strongly opposed both by the Calvinists and Socinians.

We went on in the afternoon, through a lovely country to *Nottingham*. I preached to a numerous and well behaved congregation. I love this people. There is something wonderfully pleasing, both in their spirit and their behaviour.

Friday 7. The congregation at five was very large, and convinced me of the earnestness of the people. They are greatly increased in wealth and grace, and continue increasing daily. Saturday 8. I walked through the General Hospital. I never saw one so well ordered. Neatness, decency and common sense shine through the whole. I do not wonder that many of the patients recover. I prayed with two of them; one of them a notorious sinner, seemed to be cut to the heart. The case of the other was quite peculiar. Both her breasts have been cut off, and many pins taken out of them, as well as out of her flesh in various parts. "Twelve, (the Apothecary said,) were taken out of her yesterday, and five more to day." And the physicians positively believe, she swallowed them all; though nobody can tell, when or how! Which is the great credulity? To believe this is purely natural? Or to ascribe it to preternatural agency?

In the evening many felt "The o'erwhelming power of saving grace." And many more on Sunday 9th, when we had the largest number of communicants that ever were seen at this chapel, or perhaps at any church in *Nottingham*. I took a solemn leave of this affectionate congregation, at five in the morning, Monday 10, not expecting to meet another such, (unless at *Birmingham*) till I came to *London*.

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About nine I preached at *Mount Sorrel*; and though it was the fair day, I saw not one drunken person in the congregation. It rained most of the way to *Leicester*, and some were afraid there would be no congregation. Vain fear! The house was extremely crowded with deeply attentive hearers, while I applied our Lord's words to the centurion, in effect spoken to us also, *As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.* In the afternoon we went on to *Hinkley*. It rained all the evening: yet we had more hearers than the house could contain: and hardly a trifler among them. A more serious, well-behaved people, I have seldom seen.

This evening, (I believe, before I had done preaching) a remarkable instance of divine justice happened. "A man in the street was grievously curling another, and praying God, "To blast his eyes." At that instant he was struck blind. So (I suppose) he continues ever since.

Tuesday 11. The poor, little flock at *Coventry* have at length procured a neat, convenient room, only it is far too small. As many of the people as could get in, were all attention. How is the scene changed here also! I know not but *now* the corporation, if it had been proposed, would have given the use of the Town-hall to me rather than to the dancing master! In the evening I went on to *Birmingham*, and found the usual spirit in the congregation. They are much alive to God, and consequently increasing in number as well as in grace.

Wednesday 12. At noon I preached in the new chapel at *Derrington*. To build one here was an act of mercy indeed; as the church would not contain a fifth, perhaps not a tenth of the inhabitants. At six I preached in our chapel at *Birmingham*, and immediately after, took coach to *London*.

Thursday 13. We reached the town at two, and settled all our business on this and the two following days. Sunday 16, my heart was greatly

greatly enlarged in exhorting a very numerous congregation to *Worship God in spirit and in truth*. And we had such a number of communicants as we have not had before, since the covenant-night. I suppose fifty, perhaps a hundred of them never communicated before. In the afternoon I buried the remains of *Thomas Parkinson* (who died suddenly two or three days before) one of our first members, a man of an excellent spirit, and unblamable conversation. Monday 17. after preaching at *West-Street*, where many were impressed with a deep sense of the presence of God, I took coach for *Bristol*. We had a delightful journey; but having the window at my side open while I slept, I lost my voice, so that I could scarce be heard across a room. But before Wednesday morning (by applying garlick as usual) it was instantly restored.

Thursday 20. I preached at the new room on, *We have this treasure in earthen vessels*. And the hearts of many, who had been vexed with needless scruples, were mightily refreshed.

Friday 21. I walked over to *Kingswood School*, now one of the pleasantest spots in *England*. I found all things just according to my desire; the rules being well observed, and the whole behaviour of the children shewing that they were now managed with the wisdom that cometh from above.

Sunday 23. I preached in the morning on those words in the second lesson, *Lazarus come forth*, and I believe, many that were buried in sin, heard the voice of the Son of God. In the evening I preached abroad on *Matt. v. 20*. In the middle of the sermon it began to rain; but not many went away. This put me in mind of that remarkable circumstance respecting the late Pope. On that solemn day when the Pope rides on horseback to *St. Peter's*, a violent storm scattered his whole retinue. When it abated, his Holiness was missing; but they soon found him sitting quietly in the church. Being asked how he
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could ride through such a storm? he very calmly replied, "I am ready to go not only through water, but through fire also for my Lord's sake." Strange! That such a man should be suffered to sit two years in the Papal chair!

Tuesday 25. Our Conference began. About eighty Preachers attended. We met every day at six and nine in the morning, and at two in the afternoon. On Tuesday and on Wednesday morning the characters of the Preachers were considered, whether already admitted or not. On Thursday in the afternoon we permitted any of the Society to be present, and weighed what was said, about separating from the Church. But we all determined to continue therein, without one dissenting voice. And I doubt not but this determination will stand, at least, till I am removed into a better world. On Friday and Saturday most of our temporal business was settled. Sunday 30. I preached in the room morning and evening, and in the afternoon at *Kingswood*, where there is rather an increase than a decrease in the work of God.

Monday 31. The Conference met again, and concluded on Tuesday morning. Great had been the expectations of many, that we should have had warm debates: but by the mercy of God, we had none at all. Every thing was transacted with great calmness: and we parted, as we met, in peace and love.

Tuesday, August 8. At seven Mr. *Brackenbury*, Mr. *Broadbent*, and I took coach for *Harwich*, which we reached about eight in the evening. Wednesday 9. Between two and three in the afternoon, we went on board the *Resborough* Packet, one of the cleanest ships I ever saw, with one of the most obliging Captains. We had many gentlemen on board, whom I was agreeably surprized to find equally obliging. Thursday 10. The wind continuing small and the sea calm, they desired me to give them a sermon. They were all attention. Who knows but some
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among them may retain the impressions they then received? Friday 11. For some time we had a dead calm. So that we did not reach *Helvoetsluis* till the afternoon, nor *Rotterdam* till between ten and eleven at night. We found Mr. *Loyal* was not returned from a journey, which he had begun a week or two before. But Mrs. *Loyal* gave us a hearty welcome.

Saturday 12. Mr. *Williams*, Minister of the *Episcopal* Church, and Mr. *Scot*, Minister of the *Scotch* Church, both welcomed me to *Holland*; but their kindness involved me in an awkward difficulty. Mr. *Scot* had asked the consent of his Consistory, for me to preach in his Church on Sunday afternoon. But Mr. *Williams* had given notice, of my preaching in his Church, both morning and afternoon. I would fain have compromised the matter. But each seemed to apprehend his honour concerned, and would not in any wise give up his point. I saw no possible way to satisfy both, but by prolonging my stay in *Holland*, in order to preach one Sunday, morning and afternoon in the *Episcopal*, and another in the *Scotch* Church. And possibly God may have more work for me to do in *Holland*, than I am yet aware of.

Though Mr. *Loyal*, with whom I lodged when I was at *Rotterdam* before, was not in town, being gone with a friend to *Paris*, yet I was quite at home, and went on in my work without any interruption.

Sunday 13. The service began about ten. Mr. *Williams* read prayers exceeding well, and I preached on those words in the first Lesson, *How long halt ye between two opinions?* All the congregation gave a serious attention: but I fear they only heard, but did not feel. Yet many seemed to be much affected in the afternoon, while I opened and applied those words, *There hath no temptation taken you, but what is common to men.* In the evening Mr. *Scot* called upon me and informed me, "That the Elders of his Church

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Church would not desire me to stay in *Rotterdam* on purpose to preach, but would dismiss my promise." I then determined to follow my first plan. And (God willing) to return to *England* in a fortnight.

Monday 14. Taking boat at eight we went at our ease through one of the pleasantest summer countries in Europe, and reached the *Hague* between twelve and one. Being determined to lodge at no more Inns, I went with Brother *Ferguson* to his own lodging, and passed a quiet and comfortable night. A few pious persons came to us in the evening; with whose spirits we quickly took acquaintance. I have not found any persons since we crossed the sea, who seemed so much devoted to God.

Tuesday 15. Making the experiment when we took boat, I found I could write as well in the boat, as in my study. So from this hour I continued writing whenever I was on board. What mode of travelling is to be compared with this? About noon we called on Professor *Roers* at *Leyden*, a very sensible and conversable man; as he spoke *Latin* very fluently, I could willingly have spent some hours with him. But I had appointed to be at *Amsterdam* in the evening. We came thither between seven and eight, and took up our abode with *William Ferguson*, who continued to lodge us all with tolerable convenience.

Wed. 16. I spent the day very quietly in writing, and visiting a few friends, who knew not how to be affectionate enough. In the evening I spoke to a little company at my own lodgings on, *It is appointed to men once to die.*

Thursday 17. I breakfasted with a little company of truly pious people, and afterwards went to see the manner wherein the Deacons of *Amsterdam* relieve their poor weekly. I suppose there were two or three hundred poor, but the whole was transacted with the utmost stillness and decency.

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To day likewise I visited more of my friends, who shewed all possible affection. Friday 18. we went to *Haerlem*, and spent an agreeable day with a few kind friends. We lodged at Mr. *Vancampen's*, a Florist, and were perfectly at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. *Vancampen* seemed deeply devoted to God, as much as any I have seen in *Holland*.

In the afternoon we met a little company in the town, who seemed to be truly alive to God. One Miss *Rouquet* in particular, whose least recommendation was that she could speak both *Dutch*, *French* and *English*. She spent the evening at Miss *Falconberg's*, the chief gentlewoman in the town. Here we supped. The manner was particular. No table-cloth was used, but plates with knives and forks and napkins to each person; and fifteen or sixteen small ones, on which were bread, butter, cheese, slices of hung beef, cakes, pancakes, and fruit of various kinds. To these were added music upon an excellent organ, one of the sweetest tones I ever heard.

Saturday 19. We took a walk in *Haerlem* wood. So delightful a place I scarce ever saw before. I judged it to be about a mile broad, and two or three miles deep. This is divided into almost innumerable walks, some broad and some narrow, but diversified in a wonderful manner, and skirted with elegant houses on both sides. In the afternoon we returned to *Amsterdam*. In the evening Mr. *Shranten*, a Bookfeller (whose daughter had come with us in the boat to *Amsterdam*) an Elder of the *Holland's* Church, invited us to supper, and desired me to expound a portion of scripture, which I did with liberty of Spirit. Afterward Mr. *Brackenbury* repeated to them in *French* the substance of what I had said.

Sunday 20. I expected to have preached in the *English* Church, as I did before. But some of the Elders were unwilling, so I attended there as a hearer, "And I heard as miserable a sermon, as most I have heard in my life. It might have
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been preached either among Jews, Turks or Heathens, without offending them at all. In the afternoon I expounded to a company of serious Christians, our Lord's account of *building a house upon a rock*. *Jonathan Ferguson* interpreted sentence by sentence. And God applied it to the hearts of the hearers.

Monday 21. I spent an hour with great satisfaction at Mr. *Noltanu's* country house. Such a couple as him and his wife, I have not seen since I left *London*. Their children likewise appeared to be worthy of their parents, both as to persons, understanding, and temper.

Tuesday 22. I spent great part of the day at Mr. *Vankennel's* country house, having agreed with him, to give me a private room to write in, before and after dinner. At ten, a very sensible Clergyman came in, with whom I conversed very largely, as he talked elegant Latin and exceeding fluently, beyond any I have lately met with on the Continent.

Thursday 24. I took my leave of this loving people, and the pleasant city of *Amsterdam*, very probably for ever. And setting out at seven in the morning, between two and three in the afternoon came to *Utrecht*. Mr. *Vanrocy*, the gentleman who had engaged me to lodge, sent a coach to wait for me at my landing; and received me with the courtesy and cordiality of an old *Yorkshire* Methodist.

Friday 25. I kept close to my work all the day; I dined at Mr. *Loten's*, where was such variety of food as I never saw at any nobleman's table, either in *England* or *Ireland*. In the afternoon we took a view of a widow lady's gardens, in the suburbs of *Utrecht*. I believe from the house to the end of the grand vista is about a mile. I think the gardens are not half as broad: but such exquisite beauty and symmetry I never saw before. In grandeur it is not to be named with a few places in *England*: but in

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elegance and variety, I verily believe it equals, if not exceeds, any place of the size in *Europe*.

In the evening I expounded to a select company of very honourable ladies, Matt. vii. 24. Miss *Loten* interpreting for me, sentence by sentence. And I know not but God might bless this poor way of preaching to the *Dutch*, as he did that to the *Indians* by *David Brainard*.

Saturday 26. I had a long conversation with a gentleman, whom almost all the religious world take for a madman. I do not know that I have found one of so deep experience since I left *London*. I have no doubt of his being perfected in love. He has a clear witness of it, and has had many years without interruption. I had now an opportunity of being thoroughly informed concerning the University of *Utrecht*. As the young gentlemen are scattered over this town, and live without the least control, they do any thing or nothing as they please; and as they have no tutors, they have none to check them. Most of them lounge from morning to night, doing nothing or doing worse.

Sunday 27. I attended the service at the *English* church, where about thirty persons were present. At five in the evening, I believe I had eighty or ninety hearers: and I had much liberty of speech among them. I cannot doubt, but some of them found the word of God to be sharper than a two-edged sword.

After service I went once more to Mr. *Loten's*. Both Mrs. *Loten* and he came to town on purpose to see me. Otherwise he could find little comfort there, during the present state of affairs. The *Burghers* have all agreed to depose their *Burgomasters*, and elect new ones in their stead, who are to-morrow to take an oath on a scaffold erected in the open market place, not to the Prince of *Orange*, but the city of *Utrecht*. To this end they had displaced all the Prince's guards, and

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and placed Burghers at all the gates. It is thought the example will spread, and it will not be strange if all *Holland* should soon be a field of blood.

Monday 28. We took boat at seven, being informed that at eight, all the city gates would be shut. In the evening we reached *Rotterdam*, and rejoiced to meet good Mr. *Loyal* once more. Here we rested on Tuesday. Wednesday 30. We set out early and went twelve miles in a coach, for which we had to pay six guilders and no more. We then crossd the river, which cost four stivers, and hired an open waggon for twenty three stivers, which brought us to the other river in half an hour. At the *Brill* we hired another coach, which cost us four guilders. I set down these little things that others may not be cheated.

Wednesday 30. We found company enough in our inn at *Helvoetsluis*, genteel, good-natured and sensible. But finding our conversation was not suited to their taste, we only dined with them on this and the following days. Both on Thursday and Friday, the wind was quite contrary: but otherwise we could not have failed, for it blew a storm. So I took the opportunity of writing a sermon for the magazine.

Saturday, Sept. 2. The storm abating, we set sail about nine, though the wind was contrary. But in the afternoon it fell calm. The rolling of the ship made us sick. I myself was sick a few minutes: Mr. *Broadbent*, (by times) for some hours: Mr. *Brückenbury* (who did not expect to be sick at all) almost from the beginning of the voyage to the end.

Sunday 3. When we had been twenty four hours on board, we were scarce come a third of our way. I judged we should not get on, unless I preached, which I therefore did, between two and three in the afternoon, on *It is appointed for men once to die*: and I believe all were affected for the present. Afterwards we had a fair wind for several hours: but it then fell dead calm

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again. This did not last long : for as soon as prayer was over, a fresh breeze sprung up, and brought us into the bay. It being then dark, we cast anchor : and it was well : for at ten at night, we had a violent storm. I expected little rest : but I prayed, and God answered : so that I slept sound till my usual hour, four o'clock. The wind being again quite contrary, we were obliged to tack continually : but about nine were brought safe to *Harwich*. After resting about an hour we took chaise, and about one came to *Colchester* : where, Mr. *Brackenbury* being exceeding weak, we thought it best to stay till the morning.

In the evening the house was thoroughly filled ; and many received the truth in the love thereof ; so that I did not at all regret my stopping here. Setting out early in the morning, Tuesday 5. I reached *London* before one o'clock, and transacted most of my business in the afternoon. In the evening I preached on Psalm xxix. 9, 10. and the voice of the Lord was indeed *with power*. Wednesday 6. I answered my letters and on Thursday set out for *Bristol*.

In the evening I preached at *Newbury*. It rained and blew vehemently : yet the house was thoroughly filled ; and I found uncommon liberty in putting the enquiry, " Who of you are building on the sand, and who upon a rock ? " Friday 8. in the evening I preached at *Bath*, to a more numerous congregation than I expected : and more serious, for I do not find there were any careless or inattentive hearers. Saturday 9. We had a good congregation at five ; although the weather continued stormy.

Sunday 10. Our service began at ten. Mr. *Creighton* (whose health is a little recovered, by rest, and drinking the mineral waters,) read prayers, and assisted at the sacrament. I preached on *The children are brought to the birth, and there is not strength to bring forth*. At half an hour past two we had a far larger congregation, and I think equally

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equally serious : on whom I enforced the exhortation, *Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden.* In the evening I opened and largely applied those words in the gospel for the day, *Verily I say unto you, many prophets and kings have desired to see the things which ye see, and have not seen them, and to hear those things that ye hear, and have not heard them.*

Monday 11. Leaving the Society here well united together, I went on and preached at *Bristol* in the evening. And on Tuesday retired to a friend's house, where I went on in Mr. *Fletcher's* life without interruption. But on Wednesday 13. I could not resist the desire of my friends, to preach at *Temple Church* in the evening. I never saw it so full in an evening before, nor felt so much of the power of God there.

Friday 15. I had much satisfaction in the evening at the Chapel in *Guinea Street.* It was thoroughly filled, and most of the people seemed much affected, while (from *Heb. 12. 1.*) I described what I take to be the chief besetting sins of *Bristol*, Love of money, and love of ease. Indeed God has already wrought a great deliverance for many of them : and we hope a far greater will ensue.

Sunday 17. I preached morning and evening at the room, and in the afternoon, at *Kingswood*, where the work of God seems to stand nearly at one stay ; not sensibly increasing or decreasing. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, I met the Classes at *Bristol*, and on the remaining days of the week transcribed the Society, considerably increased since last year, and I hope in grace as well as in number.

Saturday 23. I read the General plan of *Monseigneur Gebelin's* vast work, designed to consist of twelve very large quarto volumes : eight of which are published. The Primitive World analyzed and compared with the Modern. He is a man of strong understanding, boundless imagination, and amazing industry. I think his first

volume is a beautiful castle in the air. I admire it ; but I do not believe one word of it, because it is wholly built on the authority of *Sanchoniaton*, whom no one could ever yet prove to have had a being. And I fear, he was a Deist, 1. Because he no where lays the least stress upon the Bible : 2. Because he supposes the original confusion of tongues to have been a merely natural event.

Sunday 24. God was eminently present with us at the morning-service as well as at *Temple Church* in the afternoon, which I never saw so filled before : which is not at all strange, considering the spirit of the Vicar, and the indefatigable pains which he takes with rich and poor. At five I took the opportunity of a fair evening; to preach once more near King's Square ; and declared to a huge multitude the whole counsel of God.

Monday 25. We took coach in the afternoon, and on Tuesday morning reached *London*. I now applied myself in earnest to the writing of Mr. *Fletcher's* life, having procured the best materials I could. To this I dedicated all the time I could spare, till November, from five in the morning, till eight at night. These are my studying hours, I cannot write longer in a day without hurting my eyes.

Saturday 31. I went to bed at my usual time, half an hour past nine, and to my own feeling, in perfect health. But just at twelve I was waked by an impetuous flux, which did not suffer me to rest many minutes together. Finding it rather increased than decreased, though (what I never knew before) without its old companion the cramp, I sent for Dr. *Whitehead*. He came about four : and by the blessing of God in three hours I was as well as ever. Nor did I find the least weakness or faintness, but preached morning and afternoon, and met the Society in the evening, without any weariness. Of such a one, I would boldly say, with the son of *Sirach*,
Honour

Honour the Physician, for God hath appointed him.

October 2. I went to *Chatham*, and had much comfort with the loving, serious congregation in the evening, as well as at five in the morning. Tuesday 3. We then ran down with a fair pleasant wind to *Sheerness*. The Preaching-house here is now finished, but by means never heard of. The building was undertaken a few months since, by a little handful of men; without any probable means of finishing it. But God so moved the hearts of the people in the dock, that even those who did not pretend to any religion, carpenters, shipwrights, labourers, ran up, at all their vacant hours, and worked with all their might, without any pay! By this means a large square house was soon elegantly finished, both within and without. And it is the neatest building, next to the New Chapel in *London*, of any in the South of *England*.

I preached in the evening on, *Stand ye in the old paths*, to a lovely congregation, and then shewed the Society, of how great importance it was, That *their light should shine before men*. And indeed it does shine. They are of one heart and of one mind, striving for the hope of the gospel. I preached at *Chatham* on Thursday evening, and the next day returned to *London*.

Tuesday 10. Having promised to preach in their new house at *Lynn*, I thought it best to go, while the good weather continued. I had ordered two places to be taken in the coach, which would have reached *Lynn* on Tuesday noon. But my messenger mending my orders, took them in the Diligence, which came in between nine and ten at night. By this means I lost one of three evenings, which I proposed to spend there.

I spent Wednesday and Thursday with much satisfaction with a very loving and lively people, increasing in grace as well as in number, and adorning the doctrine of God our Saviour.

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I had appointed to preach Mrs. *Shewell's* funeral sermon at *Barnet* on Friday evening. And as we had only two light persons in the *Diligence*, and no baggage, I hoped we should have come in time. But they were vain hopes. We did not reach *Hodsdon*, till after sunset. I then took a post chaise; for the *Diligence* went the other road. But as we had a rough by-road across the country, without either moon or stars, we could not reach the chapel, till half an hour after seven. About half the congregation were gone away, an officious man having informed them, I would not come. With the other half, which pretty well filled the house, we had a solemn opportunity.

I have now lived to see the large family at *Hadley*, two brothers and three sisters, all removed. So does "the earth drop its inhabitants, as the tree its leaves."

Monday 16. I went to *Hinxworth* and preached in the evening to a more numerous congregation than I ever had seen there before. At length Miss *Harvey* sees some fruit of all the pains she has taken. Tuesday 17. I met her poor children in the morning, twenty of whom she keeps at school in the village, as she is unwearied in doing good. In the evening I preached in Mr. *Hick's* church at *Wastlingworth*. I have not seen such a congregation there for many years. Neither have I found so much of the power of God. Surely all our labour here will not be in vain.

Thursday 19. I returned to *London*. In this journey I had a full sight of Lord *Salisbury's* seat at *Hatfield*. The park is delightful. Both the fronts of the house are very handsome, though antique. The hall, the assembly room, and the gallery are grand and beautiful. The chapel is extremely pretty. But the furniture in general, (excepting the pictures, many of which are originals) is just such as I should expect in a gentleman's house of five hundred a year.

Sunday 22.

Sunday 22. I preached at *West Street*, morning and afternoon, and at *Allhallow's Church* in the evening. It was much crowded; and God gave us so remarkable a blessing, as I scarce ever found at that church.

Tuesday 24. I met the Classes at *Deptford*, and was vehemently importuned, to order the Sunday service in our room, at the same time with that of the church. We fixed both our morning and evening service all over *England*, at such hours as not to interfere with the church: with this very design, that those of the church, if they chose it, might attend both the one and the other.

Thursday 26. Mr. *Holbrook* carried us to *Hampton-Court*, far the finest palace which the King of *England* has. The buildings, are a little town, and nothing can be pleasanter than the park. But above all, the three fronts of the house, the stair-case and the furniture and pictures in the apartments, are worthy of a king, and not equalled by any in the kingdom, in some respects, not by *Blenheim* itself; which exceeds it only in its front, in tapestry, and in shockingly immodest pictures.

In the evening I preached to a large and serious congregation at *Wandsworth*. I think it was about two in the morning, that a dog began howling under our window in a most uncommon manner. We could not stop him by any means. Just then *William B——r* died.

Friday 27. I preached once more at *Barnet*, probably for the last time. Sunday 29. After preaching at *West Street*, I went directly to *St. Giles's*, where I preached before I went abroad two or three and fifty years ago. And are they not past as a watch in the night? My subject was, the *Joy in heaven over one sinner that repenteth*. And truly God confirmed his word. Many seemed to be partakers of that joy. And a solemn awe sat on the whole congregation.

Monday

Monday 31. And the ensuing days I visited the Classes. I was careful to take an exact account of the poor belonging to the Society. I was surprized to find only a hundred and fifty-nine. I thought there had been double the number. I hope, by the assistance of God, to see that none of these want either food or raiment.

Friday, November 3. Taking the advantage of a moonlight evening, I went down to the chapel in *Redriff*. I never saw it so well filled before, nor with such serious and attentive hearers. Is any thing too hard for God? Shall *this wilderness* at last blossom and bud as the rose?

Sunday 5. I buried the remains of *John Cow-meadow*, another martyr to loud and long preaching. To save his life, if possible, when he was half dead, I took him to travel with me. But it was too late. He revived a little, but soon relapsed, and after a few months, died in peace. He had the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, and was of an exemplary behaviour.

Tuesday 7. I visited the Classes and found them much increased both in grace and number. The house was, as usual, well filled in the evening, and many were refreshed and comforted.

Thursday 9. In the evening I preached at *Stratford*. And understanding I had *many good sort of people* to deal with, I endeavoured to stir them up, by strongly shewing what it is to *build upon a rock*: after shewing them the various ways whereby the generality of *good men* (so called) usually *build upon the sand*.

Sunday 12. I preached morning and afternoon for the use of our little Charity-School, where forty boys and twenty girls are trained up both for this world and the world to come.

Monday 13. I retired for a few days to *High-bury Place*, that I might go on in my work without interruption. I returned to town on Thursday 16, and after preaching on 1 Tim. vi. 20, had a comfortable meeting with the Bands. Their thyness is vanished away: and we have only

only one inconvenience, we have not time to hear all those that are willing to speak.

Sunday 26. After officiating at *West Street* morning and afternoon, I took coach at seven in the evening. We had a clear, pleasant night, and reached *Norwich*, about eleven on Monday the 27th. I found all things in peace, through the zeal and prudence of *Jasper Robinson* and his fellow labourers. The congregation in the evening was nearly as large as it usually is on Sunday. And more than twice as large at six in the morning, as it is accustomed to be.

Tuesday 28. About noon I preached at *Cayster*, a little town twenty miles East of *Norwich*, to a little serious congregation, the greater part of them seemed to be ripe for a blessing. The house at *Yarmouth* was thoroughly filled in the evening, and many attended in the morning likewise. Once more the combatants here have laid down their arms, and solemnly promise to continue in peace and love.

Wednesday and Thursday I spent comfortably at *Lowestoff*, among a quiet, loving people. Friday December 1. I took a solemn leave of them at six. At nine I preached at *North Cove*, with much enlargement of spirit, and about eleven at *Beccles*, to more than their Preaching-house could contain. And all of them appeared as serious and attentive as the congregation at *Yarmouth*. In the evening there seemed to be a considerable shaking even among the dry bones at *Loddon* and such a company attended at Mr. *Crisp's* in the morning, as I never saw there before.

Sat. 2. I returned to *Harwich*, and was much pleased in the evening with the largeness and seriousness of the congregation. Sunday 3. I administered the Lord's Supper at eight, and afterwards attended the Parish Church. Besides the little company that went with me, and the Clerk and Minister, I think we had five men and six women. And this is a Christian country.

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Our house could in no wise contain the congregation, either in the afternoon or in the evening. And at both times, great was the power of God in the midst of them. I have not seen for many years such a prospect of doing good in this city.

Monday 4. I was strongly importuned by our friends at *Long Stratten*, to give them a sermon there. I heard of a young woman in that country who had uncommon fits, and of one that had lately preached, but I did not know, that it was one and the same person. I found her in the very house to which I went, and talked with her at large. I was surprized : *Sarah Mallet*, two or three and twenty years old, is of the same spirit that *Jane Cooper* was, and is I think full as much devoted to God, and of as strong an understanding. But she is not likely to live; having a species of consumption which I believe is never cured. Of the following relation which she gave me, there are numberless witnesses.

Some years since, it was strongly impressed upon her, that she ought to call sinners to repentance. This impression she vehemently resisted, believing herself quite unqualified, both by her sex, and her ignorance: till it was suggested, "If you do it not willingly, you shall do it whether you will or no." She fell into a fit, and while utterly senseless, thought she was in the preaching house in *Lowestoff*, where she prayed and preached for near an hour, to a numerous congregation. She then opened her eyes, and recovered her senses. In a year or two she had eighteen of these fits: in every one of which she imagined herself to be preaching in one or another congregation. She then cried out, "Lord, I will obey thee, I will call sinners to repentance." She has done so occasionally from that time. And her fits returned no more.

I preached at one to as many as the house could contain, of people seemed ready prepared for the Lord.

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Lord. In the evening the hearts of the whole congregation at *Norwich* seemed to be bowed as the heart of one man. I scarce ever saw them so moved. Surely God will revive his work in this place, and we shall not always find it so cold and comfortless as it has long been.

Tuesday 5. In the afternoon, I took coach again, and returned to *London* at eight on Wednesday morning. All the time I could save to the end of the week I spent in transcribing the Society; a dull, but necessary work, which I have taken upon myself once a year for near these fifty years.

Wednesday 13. I retired to *Peckham*, where the next evening I preached to as many as the house would well contain, and found much liberty of spirit in enforcing upon them, the glorving only in the cross of Christ. Saturday 16. I returned to *London*.

Sunday 17. We had (as usual) a very solemn and comfortable season at *Spitalfields*. Wednesday 20. I retired to *Highbury Place*. But how changed! Where are the three amiable sisters? One is returned to her Father: one deprived of her reason; and one in Abraham's bosom!

Saturday 23. By great importunity I was induced (having little hope of doing good) to visit two of the felons in *Newgate*, who lay under sentence of death. They appeared serious; but I can lay little stress on appearances of this kind. However I wrote in their behalf, to a great man. And perhaps it was in consequence of this, that they had a reprieve.

Sunday 24. I was desired to preach at the *Old Jewry*. But the church was cold, and so was the congregation. We had a congregation of another kind the next day, Christmas-Day, at four in the morning, as well as five in the evening at the *New Chapel*, and at *West Street Chapel* about noon.

Sunday 31. From those words of *Isaiah* to *Hekiah*, *Set thy house in order*, I strongly exhorted

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all who had not done it already, to settle their temporal affairs without delay. 'Tis a strange madness which still possesses many, that are in other respects men of understanding, who put this off from day to day, till death comes in an hour when they looked not for it.

Monday, January 1, 1787. We began the service at four in the morning, to an unusually large congregation. We had another comfortable opportunity at the New Chapel at the usual hour, and a third in the evening at *West Street*.

Friday 5, and in the vacant hours of the following days, I read Dr. *Hunter's* Lectures. They are very lively and ingenious. The language is good, and the thoughts generally just. But they do not at all suit my taste. I do not admire that florid way of writing. Good sense does not need to be so studiously adorned. I love St. *John's* style, as well as matter.

Sunday 7. At the desire of many of our friends, we began that solemn work of renewing our covenant with God at three in the afternoon, two hours earlier than usual.

Monday 8, and the four following days, I went a begging for the poor. I hoped to be able to provide food and raiment for those of the Society, who were in pressing want yet had no weekly allowance. These were about two hundred. But I was much disappointed. Six or seven indeed of our brethren gave ten pounds a-piece. If forty or fifty had done this, I could have carried my design into execution. However, much good was done with two hundred pounds, and many sorrowful hearts made glad.

Sunday 21. I preached at St. *Swithin's* Church, to a numerous and serious congregation. Thursday 25. I went to *Dorking*, and found a lively and well established people. Saturday 27. I began the heavy work of meeting the Classes in *London*. Friday, February 2. I endeavoured to reconcile two of our brethren that were at variance. And one of them was very willing : but the

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the other raged like a bear bereaved of her whelps.

Sunday 4. While I applied the parable of the sower at the New Chapel, God was with us of a truth. The stout hearted trembled : as they did likewise in the evening, while I applied, *Many are called but few are chosen.*

Wednesday 7. I preached at *Brentford*, and on Thursday evening at *Lambeth*. At both places I found many who promise not to be forgetful hearers, but doers of the word.

Being earnestly desired by our brethren at *Newark*, 124 miles from *London*, to come and open their new house, I took the mail coach Friday 9. in the evening, and reached *Newark* the next day, about four in the afternoon. But having a great cold, and being so hoarse that I could not preach, I desired Mr. *Mather* to supply my place, till I had recovered my voice.

Sunday 11. Having partly recovered my voice, I preached in the new house at nine, a lightsome, cheerful building, and gave notice of preaching, at five in the afternoon. But it was not long before I received a message from the Mayor, to desire me, to begin preaching a little later, that himself and several of the Aldermen, might the more conveniently attend. They all came at half an hour past five, and as many people as could possibly squeeze in. God opened my mouth to speak strong words, and the hearts of many to receive them. Surely God will have a people in this place, that will adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.

Monday 12, There being no places to be had in the *York* coach, Mr. *Broadbent* and I went across the country to *Hinkley*. I now enquired, concerning the poor wretch who when I was here last, while he was praying God to *damn his eyes*, was in the instant struck blind. So it seems, he continued for some time. But as soon as he recovered his sight, he was just as prophane as before. Although it rained, and the people

had no notice till we came, yet the Preaching-house was quickly filled. And many, I believe, were filled with peace and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Tuesday 13. Leaving the Society here much alive to God, I went on to *Coventry*. Here finding places vacant in the *Liverpool* mail coach, we set out in the evening, and reached *London* the next morning Wednesday 14. Thursday 15. I preached at *Deptford*, and was agreeably surprized, to find the threatening storm blown over, and all our brethren in peace and love with each other. From hence on Friday 16, I went to *Rotherhithe*, which used to be one of the most uncomfortable places in *England*. But it was far otherwise now. Many of the people seemed much alive to God. And his presence was manifested in the congregation, in a very uncommon manner.

Saturday 17. I went on in reading that odd book intituled, "*A Chinese Fragment*." As to the *Chinese* themselves, I believe they are almost as religious, but nothing near so honest as the *Turks*. So that I account the contrasting them with the Christians, to be a mere pious fraud. *Du Halde's* word I will not take for a straw. But there are many and just remarks in the Treatise, to which few impartial men would have any objection, in whatever form they were proposed.

Sunday 18. The power of God was, as usual, eminently present during the service at *Spitalfields*. In the evening I met the single women of the Society, and advised them to make full use of the advantages they enjoy. But I doubt, not many had ears to hear: "For when had youth the leisure to be wise?"

Friday 23. I met our family, and was pleased to find, that we are a family of love. There is not at present one jarring string, but we all hold the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

Sunday 25. After taking a solemn leave of our friends, both at *West Street* and the New Chapel, I took the mail coach, and the next evening

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evening reached *Exeter* a little after ten o'clock. Tuesday 27. We went on to *Plymouth-Dock* : the large, new house, far the best in the West of *England*, was well filled, though on so short a warning : and they seemed cordially to receive the exhortation, *Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.*

I had the satisfaction to find the Society here in a more flourishing state than ever. Notwithstanding all the pains that have been taken, and all the art that has been used to tear them asunder, they cleave close together, and consequently increase in number as well as in strength.

Wednesday 28. We went over to *Plymouth*, and found the Society doubled since I was here before. And they are both more loving than they were then, and more earnest to save their souls. It rained most of the afternoon. However we had a crowded congregation in the evening. And all of them seemed to feel, that God was in the midst of them, for his word was sharper than a two edged sword. In consequence of this, a large number attended at five on Thursday morning, March 1. Surely this is a time of love for poor *Plymouth* also. O that they may know the day of their visitation !

In the evening I preached again at the *Dock*, and the power of God was present to heal. The people seemed to be all struck, while I opened and strongly applied the parable of the sower : especially while I was warning them, to beware of the cares of the world, and the desire of other things.

Friday 2. I was desired to go over to *Tarpoint*, a village on the *Cornish* side of the water. We were attended by a large company from the *Dock*, and a great multitude from all quarters. I suppose a great part of these had never heard this sort of preaching before. They now heard with inexpressible attention, and I believe not in vain. God opened, as it were, the windows of heaven, and sent a gracious rain upon his inheritance. I am in hopes, a plentiful harvest

will spring from the seed which was sown this hour.

In the afternoon I went over to *Plymouth*, and drank tea at Mr. *Hooker's*, the Minister of the New Church. He seems to be a man of an excellent spirit, and is a pattern to all the Clergy round about. It rained all the evening: but that did not hinder the house from being thoroughly filled, with people that heard as for life. This congregation likewise seemed to be, "all but their attention dead." The like has hardly been seen here before. What! is God about to work in *Plymouth* also!

Saturday 3. Many attended at five in the morning, although it rained sharply. It likewise blew a storm. So it did all the day, as well as in the evening. The house was then crowded indeed: yet there was attention still as night. But God uttered his voice; yea and that a mighty voice, insomuch that the stout-hearted trembled. And it seemed, as if he would send none empty away. But of these too, though many were called, I fear, few were chosen.

Sunday 4. I began the service at half an hour past nine, and concluded it before one. I suppose such a number of communicants were never seen before at *Plymouth-Dock*. But there was no disorder or hurry at all. There was more difficulty in the evening. The throng was so great, that it was impossible for me to get through them to the pulpit; at length they made shift to lift me over the seats. Again God spoke in his word, I believe to all that could get in; but some could not, and were constrained to go away.

Monday 5. The house was well filled again, both above and below. And after a solemn parting we took coach at six, leaving such a flame behind us, as was never kindled here before. God grant it may never be put out!

We reached *Exeter* between two and three. In the evening I preached on, *By grace ye are saved*
through

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through faith, to as many as could possibly squeeze into the room. It was a glorious opportunity. God uttered his voice, and that a mighty one. It seemed to break the rocks in pieces, to make the stout hearted tremble. I know not that I ever saw such an impression made on the people of *Exeter* before.

Wednesday 7. It rained much while we were at *Plymouth* and at the *Dock*, and most of the way from the *Dock* to *Exeter*. But we had lovely weather to day, and came into *Bath* early in the evening. So crowded a house I had not seen here for many years. I fully delivered my own soul, by strongly enforcing those awful words, *Many are called but few are chosen*. I believe the word sunk deep into many hearts. The next evening we had another large congregation equally serious. Thursday 8. I went on to *Bristol*, and the same afternoon Mrs. *Fletcher* came thither from *Madeley*. The congregation in the evening was exceeding large. I took knowledge, what spirit they were of. Indeed the work of God has much increased in *Bristol* since I was here last, especially among the young men, many of whom are a pattern to all the Society.

Friday 9. I went over to *Kingswood*, and found the school in a better state than I expected, considering the want of a second master, which they had for some time laboured under.

Saturday 10. I had the pleasure of an hour's conversation with Mrs. *Fletcher*. She appears to be swiftly growing in grace and ripening for a better world. I encouraged her to do all the good she could, during her short stay in *Bristol*. Accordingly she met in the following week, as many of the Classes as her time and strength would permit. And her words were as fire, conveying both light and heat to the hearts of all that heard her.

Sunday 11. We had a solemn season at the room, both in the morning and evening: and also in the afternoon, at *Kingswood*: where the
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work of God revives as well as at *Bristol*. I strongly warned the people of *Bristol* of their indolence, through which the preacher had twelve, ten or five hearers in a morning : and advised them to shake it off. Many of them did so : and I suppose we had three hundred on Monday morning ; one hundred and fifty on Saturday, and between two and three hundred every morning of the week besides.

Monday 12, and on the four days following, I met the Society. They were considerably increased both in grace and number. In the evening we had a Sunday's congregation, and a very uncommon pouring out of the spirit. If this continues, the Society in *Bristol* will soon vie with that in *Dublin*. On Thursday 16. we had such another shower of grace. Many were wounded and many healed. Yesterday that blessed saint, *Sarah Bulgin*, went to rest, in the full triumph of faith. Sunday 18. I preached her funeral sermon to a listening multitude, and had such a number of communicants, as was never seen together at *Bristol* room before. In the evening we had a love-feast ; at which Mrs. *Fletcher* simply declared her present experience. I know no one that is so changed for the better in a few years, even in her manner of speaking. It is now smooth, easy and natural, even when the sense is deep and strong.

Monday 19. I left *Bristol* with much satisfaction, expecting to hear of a plentiful harvest there : and in the evening preached at *Stroud*. The house was unusually filled both with people and with the power of God. Tuesday 20. We had a large congregation at five. Afterwards I met the Select Society, many of them enjoying the pure love of God, and constantly walking in the light of his countenance. We then visited one that was always sick and in pain, and always rejoicing in God. Another man we found nearly in the same condition ; always afflicted, and always happy. Mrs. *Wathen* a few doors from them,

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them, left by a most affectionate husband with six children, is a pattern to all about her. I walked from hence through one of the loveliest valleys I ever saw, running with a clear stream in the midst of it, between two lofty and fruitful mountains, sprinkled all over with little white houses. Between eleven and twelve I reached *Cirencester*, and no larger place being to be procured, I preached at one in our own room, to as many as could hear, either in or near it. And the labour was not lost: they all drank in the word, as the thirsty earth the showers.

In the evening I preached to a multitude of people at *Gloucester*. High and low, rich and poor behaved well. I trust a good blessing is coming to *Gloucester* also.

Wednesday 21. We had a numerous congregation at six, on whom I strongly enforced the great salvation. About eleven I had the satisfaction of spending an hour with the Bishop, a sensible, candid, and I hope, pious man. The palace in which he lives (once the priory,) is a venerable place, quite retired and elegant, though not splendid. The chapel, in particular, fitted up by good Bishop *Benson*: the hall is noble, as are also two or three of the bed chambers. But how soon must all these change their possessor!

Finding prejudice was now laid asleep, the tide running the contrary way, our friends thought it time to prepare for building their Preaching-house, and a hundred pounds are already subscribed. In the evening I preached to a larger congregation than ever; but all was still as night. And once more in the morning, on *Whosoever doth the will of God, is my brother, sister and mother*.

Thursday 22. About noon I preached at *Tewksbury*, to the largest congregation I have seen there for many years. And in the evening to our lovely and loving people at *Worcester*, plain, old, genuine *Methodists*.

Friday

Friday 23. Notice having been given, though without my knowledge, I went over to *Stourport*, a small, new built village, almost equally distant from *Bewdly* and from *Kidderminster*. I had seen Mr. *Heath* before, (a middle-aged Clergyman, who is going over to *Cokesbury* college. I met his wife and two daughters here, who are quite willing to bear him company. And I think their tempers and manners, so "winning soft, so amiably mild," will do him honour wherever they come.

At noon, abundance of people being gathered together from all parts, I preached on *Isaiah liii. 6, 7*. We have not had such an opportunity since we left *Bristol*. The stout hearted trembled: and every one seemed almost persuaded to be a Christian. The congregation at *Worcester* in the evening seemed to be of the same spirit. And God spoke to every heart.

Saturday 24. I went on to *Birmingham*: but my hoarseness increased, so that I was afraid, the people would not hear me in the evening. But they did, though the congregation was uncommonly large. Sunday 25. Having promised to read prayers and administer the sacrament, I knew not how I should do. But as we were going to the house, Mr. *Heath*, just came to town, overtook us. So he read prayers, and assisted me in delivering the sacrament to seven or eight hundred communicants.

In the evening the house at *Birmingham*, as it was rainy, contained half (I suppose) of those that would willingly have come in. Those that could get in found it an acceptable time; and we all praised God with joyful lips.

Monday 26. I spent an agreeable hour with the Select Society. Most of them still enjoy the pure love of God, and the rest are earnestly panting after it. I preached in the evening (at the request of a friend) on *2 Cor. v. 19, &c.* Many seemed to receive the word with all readiness, and I trust will bring forth fruit with patience.

Tuesday

March, 1787.

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Tuesday 27. I went on to *Wednesbury*. As it rained great part of the afternoon, most of the congregation could get into the house. And I took knowledge of the antient spirit : although most of our first hearers are gone to rest.

Wednesday 28. About ten Mr. *Horne* (from *Madeley*) read prayers in the church at *Darleston*, and I preached on those words of *Ruth*, in the first lesson, *Thy people shall be my people, and thy God shall be my God*. We have had no such time since I left *Bristol*. The flame of love seemed to melt many hearts. What has God done for *Darleston* ! How are the last become first !

In the evening I opened the new house at *Wolverhampton*, nearly as large as that at *Newcastle-upon-Tyne*. It would not near contain the people, though they were wedged together as close as possible. I believe such a congregation was never seen in *Wolverhampton* before. Not only so serious but so well behaved. I hope this is a token for good.

Thursday 29. About twelve I preached at *Lane End*. It being too cold to stand abroad, the greater part of the earnest congregation squeezed into the Preaching-house. Here we entered into the country which seems to be all on fire, that which borders on *Borslem* on every side ; preachers and people provoking one another to love and good works in such a manner as was never seen before. In the evening I preached at *Borslem*. Observing the people flocking together, I began half an hour before the appointed time. But notwithstanding this, the house would not contain one half of the congregation. So while I was preaching in the house to all that could get in, *John Broadbent* preached in a yard to the rest. The love-feast followed ; but such a one as I have not known for many years. While the two or three first spoke, the power of God so fell upon all that were present, some praying and others giving thanks, that their voices could scarce be heard. And two or three were speaking at once,

once, till I gently advised them to speak one at a time, and they did so, with amazing energy. Some of them had found peace a year ago, some within a month or a week : some within a day or two : and one of them a potter's boy, told us, " At the prayer meeting I found myself dropping into hell : and I cried to the Lord, and he shewed me he loved me. But Satan came immediately, and offered me a bag of money as long as my arm, but I said, " Get thee behind me, Satan." Several also testified, that the blood of Christ had cleansed them from all sin. Two declared, after bitter cries, that they knew their sins were just then blotted out by the blood of the Lamb. And I doubt not but it will be found upon enquiry, that several more were either justified, or sanctified. Indeed there has been for some time such an out-pouring of the Spirit here, as has not been in any other part of the kingdom : particularly in the meetings for prayer : fifteen or twenty have been justified in a day : some of them had been the most notorious, abandoned sinners in all the country. And people flock into the Society on every side : six, eight, or ten in an evening.

Friday 30. I had appointed to preach at five in the morning. But soon after four I was saluted by a concert of musick, both vocal and instrumental, at our gate, making the air ring, with a hymn to the time of *Judas Maccabeus*. It was a good prelude. So I began almost half an hour before five. Yet the house was crowded, both above and below. I strongly, but very tenderly, enforced that caution, *Let him that standeth take heed lest he fall*. And is not God able to make them stand ? Yea, and he will do it, if they walk humbly with him.

In the evening I preached at *Congleton* to a serious and well-established people. Here I found my coeval, Mr. *Troutback*, two months (I think) younger than me, just as a lamp going out for want of oil, gently sliding into a better world. He sleeps always, only waking now and then just long enough to say, " I am happy."

Saturday

April, 1787.

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Saturday 31. I went on to *Macclesfeld*, and found a people still alive to God, in spite of swiftly increasing riches. If they continue so, it will be the only instance I have known, in above half a century. I warned them in the strongest terms I could, and believe some of them had ears to hear.

Sunday, April 1. Fearing nothing so much as lest a people so much at ease should settle upon their lees, I preached at the New Church, in the most awakening manner I could, on Rev. xx. 12. *I saw a great white throne coming down from heaven.* I then hastened to *Manchester*, and endeavoured to convince a crowded congregation of the full spiritual meaning of those important words, *By grace ye are saved through faith.*

Monday 2. About noon I preached at *Stockport*, and in the evening at *Manchester*, where I fully delivered my own soul, both then, and the next day. Wednesday 3. I went to *Chester*, and preached in the evening on Heb. iii. 12. Finding there was no packet at *Parkgate*, I immediately took places in the mail coach for *Holyhead*. The porter called us at two in the morning on Thursday, but came again in half an hour, to inform us the coach was full. So they returned my money, and at four I took a post-chaise. We overtook the coach at *Conway*, and crossing the ferry with the passengers, went forward without delay. So we came to *Holyhead* an hour before them, and went on board the *Le De Spenser* between eleven and twelve o'clock. At one we left the harbour, and at two the next day came into *Dublin-bay*. On the road and in the ship I read Mr. *Blackwell's Sacred Classics illustrated and defended*. I think he fully proves his point, That there are no expressions in the New Testament which are not found in the best and purest *Greek* authors. In the evening we had a Sunday's congregation and a blessing from on high. I then retired to my lodgings which were at *Arthur Keen's*, about half a mile out of town: a pleasant, healthy

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spot, where were peace and love, and plenty of all things.

Easter day, April 7. I preached in *Bethesda*, Mr. Smyth's New Chapel. It is very neat, but not gay, and I believe will hold about as many people as *West Street* chapel. Mr. Smyth read prayers, and gave out the hymns, which were sung by fifteen or twenty *fine singers*: the rest of the congregation listening with much attention and as much devotion, as they would have done to an opera. But is this *christian worship*? Or ought it ever to be suffered in a christian church? It was thought we had between seven and eight hundred communicants. And indeed the power of God was in the midst of them. Our own room in the evening was well-filled with people, and with the presence of God. Afterward we had a love-feast, which I suppose might have continued till midnight, if all had spoken that were ready to speak.

On Monday and Tuesday I preached again at *Bethesda*, and God touched several hearts, even of the rich and great: so that (for the time at least) they were "almost persuaded to be christians." It seems as if the good providence of God had prepared this place, for those rich and honourable sinners, who will not deign to receive any message from God, but in a *genteel* way.

Wednesday 11. By conversing with many of our friends, I found they were still increasing in grace as well as in number. The Society now contains upwards of a thousand members, so that it has outrun all in *England*, but that of *London*. After this amazing flow, we must expect an ebb: it will be well if only two hundred of these fall away. On Thursday and Friday the congregations were still uncommonly large, and seemed to *feel* all that was spoken.

Saturday 14. Even at the *Gravel Walk*, where the congregation used to be small enough, the house was crouded in the evening: although the
soldiers

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soldiers (seventy or eighty of whom are in the Society) could not attend, it being the hour of their roll-calling.

Sunday 15th. I preached first at the *New Room*, and afterwards at *Bethesda*. Many fair blossoms we see here also. And surely some fruit will follow! In the evening our house could not contain the congregation, though they squeezed together as close as possible. I believe few of them heard in vain. Such attention sat on every face, as I seldom see even in *Bristol* or *London*.

Monday 16. I set out early, and preached at *Prosperous* about ten, to a numerous congregation. And although I had come ten miles out of my way, I did not regret my labour. In the evening we came to *Philipstown*, which we had forsaken for near forty years. Yet at length there is a prospect of good. A little Society is formed, and some troopers who are part of it, keep all the town in awe. The congregation was as quiet as that in *Dublin*, both in the evening and at seven in the morning. Here is seed sown once more: and God is able to give a plentiful harvest.

Tuesday 17. I crossed over to my old friends at *Tyrrels-pass*. It was supposed the house would hold the congregation in the evening; but it would hardly contain a fourth part of them. So I preached in the yard, not only to protestants, but (I was informed) most of the papists in the town; and we found God was no respecter of persons.

Wednesday 18. the house was well filled in the morning, and we had a comfortable season; as also at *Coolylough* in the evening; where God spoke to many hearts.

Thursday 19. about noon I preached at *Kenagh*, to a numerous congregation. For many years we seemed to be beating the air here. But a few months since God so blessed the preaching of poor *John Bredin*, just tottering over the grave, that we have now a lively Society, swiftly increasing both in grace and numbers. We went hence

to *Longford*, where a multitude of people soon assembled in the town hall. I found much liberty of speech, and I have seldom seen a congregation more affected. I observed one genteel woman, who kept her eyes fixt from the beginning to the end: and was agreeably surprized, when she called upon me, to find one of my old flock at *Castlebar*. Once more she has set her hand to the plough. May she never look back!

Friday 20. I went to *Athlone*; and preached in the evening to a congregation of deeper experience than any I had seen since I left *Dublin*. Yet the next day I thought it expedient to press upon them, the advice of the Apostle, *Let him that assuredly standeth (to it should be rendered) take heed lest he fall.*

Sunday 22. I opened and applied that glorious text, *The help that is done upon earth he doth it himself.* Is it not strange, that this text Psalm lxxiv. 13. is vanished out of the new translation of the Psalms! I found the work of God much increased here. And it is a favourable circumstance, that of the three ministers in the town two are our fast friends, and the third no enemy. The wind driving us into the house at six, we were crouded sufficiently. Afterwards I administered the sacrament to the Society, and not without a remarkable blessing.

Monday 23. Having taken leave of our affectionate friends at *Athlone*, I went on to *Ballinasloe*. But here we were at a loss: the usual preaching place would not contain half the people. And the wind was so high and so extremely cold, that they could not stand abroad. However we made the best shift we could, with two rooms, together with the passage and staircase. I strongly explained, what it is, to build upon the sand. And all that could hear seemed to receive the word gladly. Some, I hope, will bring forth fruit with patience.

The church at *Aghrim* was so filled in the evening, as it scarce ever was before. I believe,
God

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God enabled me to find the way to the hearts both of Protestants and Roman Catholics. I never saw so general an impression made on the people of this town before. In the morning, Tuesday 24, the preaching-house was well filled: and I exhorted them in St. John's words, *Look to yourselves, that ye lose not the things which ye have gained, but that ye receive a full reward.*

I did not find either so large or so serious a congregation in the Church at Eyre-Court. I preached between ten and eleven to a number of unconcerned hearers, and then went on to Birr.

There has been lately a great shaking among the dry bones here. The congregations are much increased, and hear with deep attention, and several members have been added to the Society. I would fain have preached in the square, but the wind and rain did not permit. So as many as could, crowded into the preaching house. I preached on *I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ*; a subject, which it seemed, suited the hearers, many of whom are hindered chiefly by evil shame, from being altogether Christians.

Wednesday 25. I once more visited my old friends at Tullamore. Have all the balloons in Europe, done so much good as can counterbalance the harm, which one of them did here, a year or two ago? It took fire in its flight, and dropped down on one and another of the thatched houses, so fast that it was not possible to quench it, till most of the town was burnt down. I preached in the assembly room to a large congregation, a few of whom are still alive to God. In the morning, for the sake of good old Matthew Moor, who is not likely to hear me again, I preached in his parlour, to as many as that and the other rooms would contain on Luke xx. 34, &c. *They neither marry nor are given in marriage: neither can they die any more, for they are equal to angels, and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.*

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Thursday

Thursday 26. About noon I preached at *Portarlinton*, not in the noisy market-place, but in our own house, thoroughly filled with attentive hearers. In the evening I preached in the church at *Mountrielick*, larger than either that at *Eyre-court* or *Aghrim*. And the whole congregation behaved well: I have seen few such since I left *Dublin*. Friday 27. we went to *Kilkenny*. Religion was here at a low ebb, and scarce any Society left, when God sent three troops of soldiers, several of whom are full of faith and love. Since they came, the work of God has revived: I never saw the house so filled since it was built. And the power of God seemed to rest upon the congregation, as if he would still have a people in this place.

Sat. 28. I preached in the morning to about a hundred people at *Kilkenny*, on the general judgment. They seemed to feel what was spoken. I left Mr. *Kane* behind me for two or three days, to follow the blow. And I trust before he leaves the town, God will lay such a foundation even there as shall never be overthrown.

We reached *Carlow* before noon, and were much refreshed with the hearty affection of our brethren, who had not forgotten me, though I had not visited them for near sixteen years. In the evening I preached at the assembly-room, to a large and tolerably serious congregation. They seemed more serious in the morning, Sunday 29, when I spoke in a manner more suited to their capacities, in largely explaining and strongly enforcing our Lord's *One thing is needful*. The church is far the neatest (though not fine) of any I have seen since we left *Dublin*. The Rector came after service, and spent near an hour with us in friendly conversation. In the evening I would have preached in the open air, but the wind was too cold and too high. So I applied the thirteenth of the Corinthians in the assembly-room, to the most affected congregation I have seen at *Carlow*. And here is a plentiful harvest:
the

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the rather, because several of the troopers quartered here, are much alive to God, and adorn in all things the doctrine of God our Saviour.

Monday 30. We went over high and steep mountains, interspersed with lovely valleys to *Bunklody*, now called *Newtown-Barry*, one of the pleasantest towns which I have seen in the kingdom: Here we rejoiced to meet Mrs. Cookman, with sister (Henry) Moore and Miss Aston from *Dublin*, who came on purpose, and willingly accompanied us to *Waterford*, and thence to *Clonmell*. I preached in the assembly room here also, but to a congregation very little awakened. But how soon can our Lord say to any of these, "*Lazarus, come forth!*"

About noon we reached *Inniscorthy*. Here likewise the use of the assembly room was promised. But a clergyman (whose father died in black despair, crying out, "The room was full of devils,") caused that promise to be retracted. So I stood in a large yard, and though it blew a storm, we had an exceeding large congregation, three or perhaps four times as many as the assembly room would have contained. I preached on, *If we let him thus alone, all men will believe on him*. To avoid the ferry, we went the mountain way, and about five came to *Wexford*.

Were ever assembly rooms put to better use? That in *Wexford*, wherein I preached, was one of the largest I ever saw: and high and low, rich and poor flocked together: and it seemed as if many of them were ripe for the gospel. I expect there will be a good harvest in this place.

May 1. Setting out early in the morning, between nine and ten I preached in the church at *Old Ross*, to a large company of as plain country people, as ever I saw in *Yorkshire*. We reached *Waterford* between two and three. At six I preached in the court-house, to an immense congregation, while a file of musketeers, ordered by the mayor, paraded at the door.

Two

Two or three hundred attended in the morning, and gladly received the whole truth. In the evening the congregation was larger than before, and equally attentive. Thursday 3. I took my leave of this earnest, loving people, and went on through a delightful country to *Clonmell*. At six I preached in the court house. I was much surprised. I know not when I have seen so well-drest, and ill-behaved a congregation. But I was told, "It was the same way that they behaved at church." Pity then that they do not turn Papists. The church of *England* needs no such members. They are no honour to it.

Friday 4. With great difficulty we got over a most horrid road to *Capperquin*. But that from thence to *Tallogh* (eight miles) was exceeding pleasant. The remaining ten miles were very tolerable, so that we reached *Youghall* in good time. The court-house was thoroughly filled at six, and above half filled at five in the morning. Saturday 5, we went on to *Cork*. The road was pleasant beyond description. At a very small distance on the left hand, the river "rolled its sinuous train:" beyond which were shady trees, covering a steep hill, and rising row above row. On the right we had another sloping mountain, tufted over with trees, sometimes forming one green even wall, sometimes scattered up and down. Between these appeared several beautiful seats, some of them fit for noblemen.

At six in the evening, the preaching house would ill contain the congregation. And many of the rich and honourable were among them! Who hath warned these to flee from the wrath to come?

Sunday 6. We had an evening congregation at seven, whom I warned to order their conversation aright. At three in the afternoon, I preached to a numerous congregation; but many of them, especially the genteeler sort, were rude as colts untamed. We flowed the people together
in

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in the evening, as close as it was possible. But still many were constrained to go away, finding no place, even at the door. Monday 7. the congregation at five in the morning was little inferior to that we used to see on Sunday evening. This time also we had many of the gay and honourable, who seem at present almost persuaded to be christians. O what shoals of half awakened sinners, will be broad awake when it is too late. On Tuesday likewise the congregations were exceeding large, and deep attention sat on every face.

Wednesday 9. We went to *Bandon*. Here also there has been a remarkable work of God, and yet not without many backsliders. It was therefore my chief business here, to strengthen the weak, and recal the wanderers. In the evening I preached in the Assembly Room, (which was offered me by the Provost,) on *How shall I give thee up, Ephraim?* And God applied his word. I believe there was a general melting among the people, and many *purposed* to return to God. But the room was exceeding hot, and extremely crowded: and yet would not near contain the congregation. Thursday 10. the preaching-house was filled at five in the morning: and again I applied directly to backsliders, and found a strong hope, that *the times of refreshing will soon come from the presence of the Lord.*

At noon we took a walk to *Castle-Barnard*. Mr. *Barnard* has given it a beautiful front, nearly resembling that of Lord *Mansfield's* house at *Cane-Wood*, and opened part of his lovely park to the house, which I think has now as beautiful a situation as *Rockingham* house in *Yorkshire*. Mr. *Barnard* much resembles in person and air, the late Sir *George Saville*. Though he is far the richest person in these parts, he keeps no race-horses, or hounds, but loves his wife and home, and spends his time and fortune in improving his estate, and employing the poor. Gentlemen of
this

this spirit are a blessing to their neighbourhood. May God increase their number!

In the evening, finding no building would contain the congregation, I stood in the main street, and testified to a listening multitude, *This is not your rest*. I then administered the Lord's Supper to the Society, and God gave us a remarkable blessing.

Friday 11. I took an affectionate leave of our friends at five. I left them full of good desires and resolutions. Calling on one that was ill at *Innishannon*, word was quickly brought me, that the people were flocking together to the preaching-house. It was soon filled from end to end, and I preached to them, *Jesus Christ, made of God to us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption*. About noon I preached in the court house at *Kinsale*, to a very large congregation. But how different from that which I had in the bowling-green, two years ago? That was one of the most indecent, ill-mannered congregations that ever I saw in *Ireland*. This was as eminently well-behaved; the sovereign and many genteel persons being among them. It was no wonder to see the congregation at *Cork* in the evening equally well-behaved. So they always are: the chief of the city being no longer bitter enemies, but cordial friends.

Saturday 12. A gentleman invited me to breakfast, with my old antagonist, Father O'Leary. I was not at all displeased at being disappointed. He is not the stiff, queer man that I expected; but of an easy, genteel carriage, and seems not to be wanting either in sense or learning. In the afternoon, by appointment, I waited on the Mayor, an upright, sensible man, who is diligently employed from morning to night, in doing all the good he can. He has already prevailed upon the corporation, to make it a fixt rule, that the two hundred a year, which was spent in two entertainments, should for the future be employed, in relieving indigent freemen, with their
wives

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wives and children. He has carefully regulated the house of industry, and has instituted a humane society, for the relief of persons seemingly drowned. And he is unwearied in removing abuses of every kind. When will our *English* Mayors copy after the Mayor of *Cork*? He led me through the Mayoralty house, a very noble and beautiful structure. The dining-room and the ball-room are magnificent, and shame the mansion-house in *London* by their situation, commanding the whole river, the fruitful hills on every side, and the meadows running between them. He was then so good as to walk with me quite through the city, to the house of industry, and to go with me through all the apartments, which are quite sweet and commodious. A hundred and ninety two poor are now lodged therein: and the master, (a pious man, and a member of our Society,) watches over them, reads with them, and prays with them, as if they were his own children.

Sunday 13. We had a very comfortable opportunity at eight in *Cork*. At three Mr. *Broad-bent* preached on the parade. At five, as we removed the benches and stowed the people close together, the room contained most of the people. And I took a solemn leave of them, after closely applying our Lord's question, *Do ye now believe?*

Monday 14. We went to *Killfinnan*, about twenty *Irish* miles (so I compute) from *Mallow*. I preached in the court-house about seven to a large and serious audience, and again at five in the morning, Tuesday 15. We went on, through a delightful country to *Limeric*. Here were always an affectionate people: but I never found them so much so, as now. It was too cold in the evening to stand abroad. So we squeezed as many as possible into the preaching-house. I preached on *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart*. Many here once experienced this. But few, if any, retain it now!

Wednesday

Wednesday 16. The congregation at five filled the house almost as well as it was filled in the evening. Finding a remarkable deadness, I enquired what were the reasons of it, and found 1. There had been for several months a deep misunderstanding between the Preachers and the chief of the Society. Hence on the one hand, the Preachers had little life or spirit to preach, and on the other, the congregation dwindled away : 2. Many had left off meeting their Bands, and many others seldom met their Classes. 3. Prayer meetings were entirely given up. What wonder if all the people were grown as dead as stones ?

In the evening I endeavoured to re-awaken those that were settling upon their lees, by strongly applying those solemn words, *The first shall be last, and the last first : for many are called, but few are chosen.* In the morning, Thursday 17. I endeavoured to stir them up once more to hunger and thirst after righteousness, after the whole image of God, without which they will still remain, "Cold, languid, weary, heartless, dead."

After morning service I met the stewards and leaders, and enquired into the rise of the late misunderstanding. I found the matter itself was nothing ; but want of patience on both sides, had swelled the mole hill into a mountain. O how patient, how meek, how gentle toward all men, ought a Preacher, especially a Methodist to be !

In the afternoon I walked through all the parts of the workhouse, called in *Ireland*, the House of Industry. It is pleasantly situated on a rising ground near the river, and I believe would contain about three hundred persons. (That at *Dublin* contains six hundred.) At present there are about eighty persons in it, the contributions falling short. The apartments are large, airy and sweet, and the poor (most of whom are employed) seem contented.

Every

Every time I preached I found more and more hope, that God will revive his work in this city. I know he will, if the prayer-meetings are restored: these are never without fruit.

Friday 18. I set out early in the morning and reached *Castlebay* about four in the afternoon. I had much conversation with Mrs. *Pearce*, a woman of many sorrows. But when she has been tried, she shall come forth as gold.

In the evening I preached at *Killchrist*, about four miles from *Castlebay*. The number of the people constrained me to stand in the open air, though the wind was high and cold. They were all attentive and serious, except one young gentleman, who would fain have laughed, if he could. But his sport was quickly spoiled. And before the sermon was half over, he was as serious as his neighbours.

Saturday 19. In two hours and a half we came to *Athenry*, the rival of *Killmallock*, once a flourishing city, now a heap of ruins: but even these are now covered with earth. It was built by King *John*, as well as the other, and seems by its walls to have been one of the largest cities in the kingdom. Being wrong directed when we left this, we got almost to *Galway*, going about six miles out of our way to *Cahir-Morreys*. However I reached *Ballinrobe* in time to preach to a large, and well-behaved (although genteel) congregation. I preached again at eight in the morning, Sunday 20, and then hastened on to *Castlebar*. We went straight to church. I preached at five in our New-house, I think larger than that at *Limerick*, and thoroughly filled with as attentive a congregation, as any I have seen in the kingdom.

Monday 21. Little misunderstandings between themselves have continually hindered the work of God in this Society. This morning I heard the contending parties face to face, and once more made them friends. A numerous congregation listened with all attention in the evening,

to that important word of our Lord, *Whosoever doth the will of God, the same is my brother, and sister and mother.* Tuesday 22. One of the men confined for murder, earnestly importuned me to visit him. I did so ; but he seemed as dead as a stone. And I did not wonder. For such an action, performed in cool blood, I never heard of before. Mr. *M'Donnel*, who had his leg wounded by one shot, and both his arms broke by another, was sitting on the ground when this wretch came and presented a blunderbuss. He begged only five minutes to say his prayers. *Andrew* swore, "No, not one," and instantly shot him through the heart ! This whole transaction from the beginning to the end, containing such a series of calm, deliberate murder, perpetrated with so shocking circumstances, is hardly to be paralleled in history. Some time since a shrewd man said, "This country will never be in quiet, till one of these men has murdered the other, and then is hanged for it."

Wednesday 23. Leaving our little Society in peace and love, we went by *Swineford* to *Sligo*. At six I preached in the new court-house, a very spacious and commodious building, to a more numerous and more attentive congregation than I have seen here for many years. A large congregation was present again at five in the morning. So that I am not without hope, the work of God may at length revive here also. I had purposed going straight from hence to *Annadale*. But notice had been given of my preaching at *Mannor-hamilton*. It is true, this was five or six miles out of my way, and abundantly worse road. However I would not disappoint the poor people. I preached at seven to a very serious congregation, and past a comfortable evening.

Friday 25. I had a day of rest in this lively family, only preaching morning and evening. Saturday 26. I preached at *Ballyconnel* about eleven. In the afternoon I took a walk in the
Bishop

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Bishop of *Kilmore's* garden. The house is finely situated; has two fronts, and is fit for a nobleman. We then went into the church yard and saw the venerable tomb, a plain flat stone inscribed, "Depositum Gulielmi Bedel, quondam Episcopi Kilmorensis:" over whom even the rebel army sung, "Requiescat in pace ultimus Anglorum." "Let the last of the *Englishmen* rest in peace." At seven I preached to a large congregation. It blew a storm, but most of the congregation were covered by a kind of shed raised for the purpose. And not a few were greatly comforted.

Sunday 27. I preached in *Cavan* at seven, and then hastened forward to *Clones*, leaving Mr. *Broadbent* to preach at *Ballyhays*, which he did with good effect. But I needed not to have been in such haste. For the church service did not begin till twelve. Such a number of communicants, I suppose, was never seen at this church before. The service ended about half past three. The question then was, Where I should preach? The furious wind and violent rain, made it impracticable to preach, (where I intended) at the head of the market-place. But I made shift to stand on one side of it in a door way, where I was pretty well sheltered. Although the poor people were exposed to heavy rain during the whole sermon, none of them seemed to regard it. And God did indeed send a gracious rain upon their souls, so that many rejoiced with joy unspeakable.

Monday 28. Having all the parties together, I enquired into an odd affair which occurred here a few months ago. *F. B.* leader of the Class of single women, and always hitherto of an unblemished character, was accused of immodesty by Mr. *A*——— in whose house she had lived for several years. I found this accusation to be totally groundless. 2. *John Karr*, one of our eldest members, with a few others spent an hour

in reading and prayer, while a local preacher was reading a sermon at the room. This was represented to the assistant as done in a spirit of opposition, and as an intention of leaving the Society, (a thing which never entered into their thoughts) and he was urged, to read them out of the Society. Accordingly, he read out fourteen at once. I could not find, upon the strictest enquiry, that they had been guilty of any fault but meeting together that evening. So I willingly received them all again; requiring only one condition of the contenders on both sides, To say not one word of any thing that was past. The spirit of peace and love gloriously descended on them all, at the evening preaching, while I was explaining the *fruit of the spirit*. They were again filled with consolation at the Lord's supper: and again in the morning, while Mr. Broadbent applied, *Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith the Lord.*

Tuesday 29. The old murderer is restrained from hurting *me*; but it seems, he has power over my horses. One of them I was obliged to leave in *Dublin*, and afterwards another; having bought two to supply their places; the third soon got an ugly swelling in his shoulder, so that we doubted whether we could go on. And a boy at *Clones*, riding (I suppose galloping) the fourth over stones, the horse fell and nearly lamed himself. However we went on softly to *Aughalun*, and found such a congregation, as I had not seen before in the kingdom. The tent (that is, a covered pulpit) was placed, at the foot of a green, sloping mountain, on the side of which the huge multitude sat (as their manner is) row above row. While I was explaining, *God has given unto us his holy Spirit*; he was indeed poured out in a wonderful manner. Tears of joy and cries were heard on every side. Only so far suppress, as not to drown my voice, I cannot but hope, that many will have cause to bless God for that hour to all eternity.

I preached

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I preached at *Lisbelaw*, another little village, about six in the evening. The small rain continued all the time; but that did not hinder the people from mightily rejoicing in him, who *causes the earth to bring forth at once, and a nation to be born in a day.*

Wednesday 30. A large room, designed for an assembly room, was filled in the morning; and the poor people appeared to be quite ripe for the highest doctrine of the gospel. So I exhorted them, leaving the first principles, to *go on to perfection.*

About eleven I preached in the market-house at *Enniskillen* formerly a den of lions. But the lions are become lambs. They flocked together from every part, and were all attention. Before I had half done, God made bare his arm, and the mountains flowed down at his presence. Many were cut to the heart, and many rejoiced with joy unspeakable. Surely the last shall be first: and poor *Enniskillen* shall lift up its head above many of the places, where the gospel has been long preached.

In the evening I preached to another numerous congregation, at *Vidare*, a large house at the foot of the mountains. One would wonder whence all the people came: they seemed to spring out of the earth. Here also there were once many bitter persecutors, but they are vanished away like smoke; several of them indeed *came to a fearful end*, and their neighbours took warning by them.

Thursday 31. We travelled through a pleasant, well-cultivated country to *Omagh*, the shire town of *Tyrone*. It being market day, a multitude of people presently flocked together to a *tent*, as they call it, on the side of the green. At first they were innocently noisy, (this being a new thing at *Omagh*,) but they were soon still as night. I suited my subject to their experience, preaching on, *It is appointed for all men once to die.* God

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applied it to their hearts. Not a smile was to be seen, but all seemed to feel the solemn truth.

Thence we went over mountains, and dales to *Kerlish Lodge*, where we met with a hearty welcome, both from *Alexander Boyle*, and his amiable wife, who are patterns to all the country.

Although we were at a lone house ten miles from any town, and although the weather was both rainy and stormy, we had a large congregation in the evening, and afterwards a comfortable lovefeast. I do not wonder the work of God spreads in these parts. The spirit and behaviour of Mr. Boyle and his wife, continually employed in doing good, have an amazing influence on all their neighbourhood. Some time she went to his uncle's at *Killrail*, who has four daughters grown up. They began conversing in the evening. They prayed, and sung, and talked and prayed again, till about seven in the morning. By that time all four of them found a clear sense of pardon, and two believed they were saved from all sin.

Mr. Boyle had spoke to Dr. Wilson, the Rector of a neighbouring town, concerning my preaching in the church; who wrote to the Bishop and received a letter in answer, giving a full and free consent. The Doctor desired me to breakfast with him. Meantime one of his parishioners, a warm seceder, took away the key of the church. So I preached in a neighbouring orchard. I believe not in vain. The Rector and his wife were in the front of the congregation.

Afterward we took a view of Lord *Abercorn's* place. The house has a lovely situation: and the front of it is as elegant as any I have seen either in *Great Britain* or *Ireland*. The grounds are delightful indeed, perhaps equal to any in the kingdom.

About five in the evening I preached at *Killrail*. No house would contain the congregation. So I preached in the open air. The wind was piercing cold: but the people regarded it not.

Afterward

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Afterward I administered the Lord's Supper to about a hundred of them, and then slept in peace.

Saturday, June 2. It was with difficulty we reached *Strabane*, my new horse quite failing. I had no thought of preaching there, till word was sent, that the town-hall was at my service. I then went to it without delay, and had a genteel, yet serious congregation. In the afternoon my horse failed again: but one of the Preachers tried *his*: and he drew, as if he had been bred to it. Our house at *Londonderry* not being ready, I preached at six in the town-hall, a beautiful and spacious room, to a deeply serious congregation. Sunday 3. It was more numerous in the morning and equally serious. So was the great congregation in the evening. Surely we shall see more fruit in this city: but first we shall have need of patience.

Monday 4. Mr. *Broadbent* preached at five, and I at eleven, and he in the evening. He did the same on Tuesday 5. At noon we took a walk in the Bishop's garden, and saw his delightful summer-house, a room fifty feet long, finished with the utmost elegance, and situated on the point of a hill, that commands the river and all the country. But his Lordship has utterly forsaken it. For it is no longer new.

Wed. 6. I took leave of my dear friends at *Londonderry*, and drove to *Newtown Limmovaddy*. I had no design to preach there. But while we were at breakfast, the people were gathered so fast, that I could not deny them. The house was soon filled from end to end. I explained to them, The fellowship believers have with God. Thence I went on to *Colerain*, and preached at six (as I did two years ago) in the barrack-yard. The wind was high and sharp enough: but the people here are good, old soldiers. Many attended at five in the morning, and a huge congregation about six in the evening. Most of whom I believe, tasted the good word; for God

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was with us of a truth. Friday 8. I could willingly have stayed a little longer, with this steady, affectionate people. But I broke from them between six and seven, and went forward, as well as the heavy rain and a tired horse would permit. About two we reached *Ballimena*, where we have a small and poor, but well-established Society. The Presbyterian minister offering his meeting-house, I willingly accepted his offer, and explained to a large congregation, *God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself*. And I believe his word fell on many as *the rain, and as the dew upon the tender herb*.

Sat. 9. We went through a lovely country to *Antrim*. Here likewise the Presbyterian minister offered me the use of a large and commodious house. The Bible in the pulpit lying open, I chose for the subject of my discourse, the words which first met my eye, namely, *When they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both*. The greatest part of the country from hence to *Belfast*, is likewise exceeding pleasant. At six I preached in the linen-hall to a numerous, and seriously attentive congregation. A gentleman invited me to lodge at his house, and shewed me the new Presbyterian meeting-house. It is nearly seventy two feet by fifty, and is far the most beautiful of any I have seen in *Ireland*. But I doubt whether it equals *Dr. Taylor's* in *Norwich*. That is the most elegant I ever saw.

I preached at ten in the linen-hall, to double the congregation that attended in the evening. And the power of God came wonderfully upon them, melting their hearts and breaking the rocks in pieces. In the afternoon I preached in the linen-hall at *Lisburn*, to a still more numerous congregation; I think the largest that I have seen, since we left *England*. And all, excepting a few giddy children, behaved as men that heard for life.

Monday 11. It being the Quarterly meeting, I preached at eleven in the Presbyterian meeting house,

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house, a large and handsome building, freely offered both by the minister and his elders. And it then contained the congregation. But in the evening the multitude of people constrained me to return to my old stand in the linen-hall. And I have hardly had so solemn an opportunity, since we came into the kingdom.

Tuesday 12. We came through a most beautiful country to *Downpatrick*, a much larger town than I imagined: I think, not much inferior to *Sligo*. The evening was uncommonly mild and bright, there not being a cloud in the sky. The tall firs shaded us on every side, and the fruitful fields were spread all around. The people were, I think, half as many more as were at *Lisburn* even on Sunday evening. On whom I enforced those important words, *Acquaint thyself now with him, and be at peace.*

Wed. 13. Being informed we had only 26 miles to go, we did not set out till between six and seven. The country was uncommonly pleasant, running between two high ridges of mountains. But it was up hill and down all the way, so that we did not reach *Rathfriland* till near noon. Mr. Barber, the Presbyterian minister, (a princely personage, I believe, six feet and a half high) offering me his new spacious preaching-house, the congregation quickly gathered together. I began without delay, to open and enforce, *Now God commandeth all men every where to repent.* I took chaise the instant I had done: but the road being still up hill and down, we were two hours going what they called six miles. I then quitted the chaise and rode forward. But even then, four miles, so called, took an hour and a half riding, so that I did not reach Dr. *Lesley's* at *Tandragee* till half an hour past four. About six I stood upon the steps at Mr. *Godly's* door, and preached on, *This is not your rest*, to a larger congregation by a third, than even that at *Downpatrick*. I scarce remember to have seen a larger,

larger, unless in *London, Yorkshire, or Cornwall.*

Thursday 14. Mr. *Broadbent* and I walked round Dr. *Lesley's* domain. I have not seen any thing of the size in *England*, that is equal to it. The house stands on the midst of a fruitful hill, which is part beneath, and part above it. In approaching it, you see no walls, nothing but green trees and shrubs of various kinds. Enter the court yard and gate, and you see no stone walls : but on either hand, "The verdurous wall of paradise springs : " And that summer and winter, consisting wholly of ever-greens, that bloom all the year round. On the upper side of the house, the gently rising hill yields the loveliest scene, that can be conceived : such a mixture of shady walks, and lawns sprinkled with trees ; at the top of which is a natural rock ; under which you may sit and command a most beautiful and extensive prospect. And all this variety has risen from a rough, furzy heath, by the industry of Dr. *Lesley* in thirty years !

I expected the congregation would not be so large this evening as it was the last. But it was far larger, and if possible more attentive. I have scarce ever seen a more pleasing sight. We were covered round with tall, shady trees, only an opening on one side afforded a view of the wide-extended country. The people were as motionless as the trees ; for the power of God was upon them. And I believe few of them will forget that hour, till their spirit returns to God.

Friday 15. About eight I preached at *Rich hill*, to a deeply serious congregation. At eleven I preached in the *Castle-yard* at *Charlemount*, to a large congregation gathered from all parts, (it being the quarterly meeting.) Immediately followed the love-feast. But the preaching house would not contain one half of the people : so we borrowed the green in the front, and let the people

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people through the wicket, one by one. They then sat down on the grass, being full as private as in the house. And many spoke their experience quite freely. But the rain obliged us to break off our meeting sooner than we intended. It began in the evening, before I had finished the hymn, but stopt in two or three minutes, and left us a fair, and tolerably pleasant evening.

Sat. 16. I went on to *Duncannon*: but the town seemed to be in an uproar. One would have thought Bedlam had broke loose. The cause was this, A cock-fight was at hand. A gentleman asked the Presbyterian minister for the use of his meeting-house; but he gave a reason for his denial, viz. That Mr. *Hall*, one of the Society, had said, He had played at cards all night, (which, it seems, was true;) and therefore he could not allow him to come into his meeting-house. So we removed all the benches out of our own; and it contained most of the congregation. I preached there again in the evening, and then held a love-feast: at which many were greatly comforted.

Sunday 17. We knew not what to do at *Armagh*: the rain would not suffer us to preach in the avenue. And our house would not contain half of the congregation, many of whom came from far. The best shift we could make, was to squeeze into the house as many as possible; and keep both the windows and doors open, by which means many more could hear.

In the evening the Seceders, (who would think it) freely gave me the use of their large meeting-house. It was filled from end to end, but a wise young gentleman observed, That I had "quite mistook my subject. My sermon being calculated for the vulgar, not for gentlefolks."

I permitted as many as our house would contain, to stay at the meeting of the Society, and gave them a plain account of the Methodists, both as to their rise, principles and practice.

Monday

Monday 18. Many seemed not a little moved while I enforced the words of *Eliphaz* (it seems the eldest and most honourable of *Job's* three friends,) *Acquaint thyself now with him, and be at peace.* Afterwards we took a view of the Primate's lodge and chapel, elegant in the highest degree, and of the domain surrounding them, which is laid out and planted in the most beautiful manner. And what hath the owner thereof? Not so much as the beholding thereof with his eyes! Probably he will behold it no more! He is fully taken up in building a large seat near *Dublin*. At above eighty years of age!

Tu secunda marmora
Locas sub ipsum funus, & Sepulchri
Immemor struis domos!

In the evening I preached once more in Mr. *M'Cough's* avenue, and a listening multitude seriously attended. Surely there will be a harvest here also by and by, although hitherto we see but little fruit.

Tuesday 19. We went on through horrible roads to *Newry*. I wonder any should be so stupid as to prefer the *Irish* roads to the *English*. The huge unbroken stones, of which they are generally made, are enough to break any carriage in pieces. No; there is nothing equal to good *English* gravel, both for horses, carriages, and travellers.

In the evening I preached to a numerous congregation, in the large meeting-house. I believe many felt the edge of the word, sharper than a two edged sword. One consequence of which was, that our new room would not contain the congregation even at five in the morning, but many were constrained to stand without. Between nine and ten I preached in the market-house at *Dundalk*. We expected a tumult; but there was none at all. A very large congregation of rich and poor, behaved with the utmost decency

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cency, while I enforced, *Now is the accepted time : now is the day of salvation.* At six in the evening I preached in the court-house at *Drogheda* to a crowded congregation, on *I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God.* Even in this turbulent town, all were quiet, and seemed to feel that God was there.

Thursday 21. Several of our friends from *Dublin* met us at the *Man of War*, with whom we went on to *Swords*, a town famous from time immemorial for all manner of wickedness. However finding a congregation waiting, I began without delay. And all were still as night. So salvation is come to the sinners of *Swords* also. In the afternoon it pleased God to bring us safe to *Dublin*, when we had been absent a little above two months.

Friday 22. I began visiting the Classes, which employed me to the Thursday following. We found it necessary to exclude one hundred and twelve members : there remained eleven hundred and thirty six.

Sunday 24. At seven I preached in the room. At eleven the service began at *Bethesda*. I found uncommon liberty there, even among the rich and great. I think some of them felt our Lord present, both to wound and to heal. In the evening I preached at the new room, and it was just as much as I could do without weariness.

Tuesday 26. We were agreeably surprized with the arrival of Dr. *Coke*, who came from *Philadelphia* in nine and twenty days, and gave us a pleasing account of the work of God in *America*.

Thursday 28. I had the pleasure of a conversation with Mr. *Howard*, I think one of the greatest men in *Europe*. Nothing but the mighty power of God can enable him to go through his difficult and dangerous employments. But what can hurt us, if God is on our side ?

Sat. 30. I desired all our preachers to meet me, and consider the state of our brethren in *America*, who have been terribly frightened at

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their own shadow, as if the *English* preachers were just going to enslave them. I believe that fear is now over, and they are more aware of Satan's devices.

Sunday July 1. At seven I strongly exhorted a large congregation, *Not to be conformed either to the wisdom, spirit, or fashions of this world, if ever they desired to be transformed in the spirit of their mind, according to the perfect and acceptable will of God.* In the evening I opened and applied those awful words, *Lord, are there few that be saved?*

Tuesday 3. A few friends took me to *Marino*, a seat of Lord *Charlemount's*, four miles from *Dublin*. It contains a lovely mixture of wood, water and lawns, on which are several kinds of foreign sheep, with great plenty of peacocks; but I could not hear any singing birds of any kind. I a little wondered at this; till I afterwards recollected, that I had not heard any singing bird, not even a lark, a thrush, or a black-bird, within some miles of *Dublin*. In the evening I strongly enforced those awful words, *Strive to enter in at the strait gate*, upon a numerous congregation, who had ears to hear, and hearts to receive the whole gospel.

Wed. 4. I spent an hour at the *New Dargle*, a gentleman's seat four or five miles from *Dublin*. I have not seen so beautiful a place in the kingdom; it equals the *Leasow*s in *Warwickshire*. And it greatly exceeds them in situation, all the walks lying on the side of a mountain, which commands all *Dublin-bay*, as well as an extensive and finely variegated land prospect. A little river runs thro' it, which occasions two cascades, at a small distance from each other. Although many places may exceed this in grandeur, I believe none can exceed it in beauty. Afterwards I saw the parliament-house. The House of Lords far exceeds that at *Westminster*: and the Lord Lieutenant's throne as far exceeds that miserable throne (so called)

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called) of the King in the *English* House of Lords. The House of Commons is a noble room indeed; it is an octagon, wainscotted round with *Irish* oak, which shames all mahogany, and galleried all round for the convenience of the ladies. The Speaker's shair is far more grand than the throne of the Lord Lieutenant. But what surprized me above all, were the kitchens of the house, and the large apparatus for good eating. Tables were placed from one end of a large hall to the other, which (it seems) while the parliament sits, are daily covered with meat at four or five o'clock, for the accommodation of the members. Alas! Poor Ireland! Who shall teach thy very senators wisdom? War is ceased.

Sed scivior armis, Luxuria incubuit!

Thursday 5. Most of our preachers came to town. Friday 6. Our Conference began, and ended (as usual) on Tuesday 10. We had no jarring string, but all from the beginning to the end, was love and harmony.

Sunday 8. I preached at our room at seven. At eleven the service began at *Bethesda*. The congregation was exceeding large. I preached on part of the second Lesson, (Luke xx. 34.) and many had a large taste of the powers of the world to come. At the love-feast in the evening, many spoke freely, who were deeply experienced in the ways of God. Indeed they have fairly profited in the divine life. I have rarely heard such a conversation even in *England*. On Tuesday evening likewise many spoke with equal fire, tempered with meekness of wisdom.

Wednesday 11. At five I took an affectionate leave of this loving people. And having finished all my business here, in the afternoon, I went down with my friends, having taken the whole ship, and went on board the *Prince of Wales*, one of the *Parkgate* packets. At seven we sailed with a fair, moderate wind. Between nine and ten I lay down as usual, and slept till near four,

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when I was waked by an uncommon noise, and found the ship lay beating upon a large rock, about a league from *Holyhead*. The Captain leaped up, and running upon the deck, when he saw how the ship lay, cried out, "Your lives may be saved, but I am undone." Yet no sailor swore, and no woman cried out. We immediately went to prayer: and presently the ship, I know not how, shot off the rock and pursued her way, without any more damage, than the wounding a few of her outside planks. About three in the afternoon we came safe to *Parkgate*; and in the evening went on to *Chester*.

Friday 13. I spent a quiet day, and in the evening enforced to a crowded audience the Parable of the Sower. I know not that ever I had so large a congregation here.

Sunday 15. I preached at the new church in *Macclesfield* in the morning on Matt. v. 20. in the afternoon on 1 Cor. xv. 55. Mr. *Broadbent* in the room at eight in the morning, and between five and six in the evening.

Monday 16. The house was well filled at five in the morning. At noon I took a view of Mr. *Ryle's* silk-mill, which keeps two hundred and fifty children in perpetual employment. In the evening I preached on Mark iii. 35. and we had a comfortable opportunity. Tuesday 17. About noon I preached in the new chapel at *Bullock's-smithy*, and in the evening at *Stockport*. Being informed that the people in general were dead and cold, I strongly applied, *Now it is high time to awake out of sleep*. God was pleased to speak in his word, and that with a mighty voice: but still more powerfully at five in the morning, Wednesday 18, while I was enforcing that promise, *The Lord whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple*. I then retired to a little house of Mr. *Brocklehurst's*, two miles beyond *Manchester*. Here *Adam Oldham* lived! O what did riches profit him! How strange the Providence which put me in his place!

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The rest of this week I spent in writing. On Saturday 21. I returned to *Manchester*. Sunday 22. Our service began at ten. Notwithstanding the severe cold which has continued many days, the house was well filled: but my work was easy, as Dr. *Coke* assisted me. As many as could, crowded in in the evening. But many were obliged to go away. Afterwards I spent a comfortable hour with the Society.

Monday 23. I preached morning and afternoon. In the evening I met the Bands, and admired their liveliness and simplicity. After preaching on Tuesday morning, I retired again to *Bruton*. Thursday 26, about noon I preached in the new preaching-house, to as many as it would well contain, on *Isaiah* lv. 5, 6. To day I read upon the road a very agreeable book, Mr. *Dobb's Universal History*. It gave me a clearer view of antient times than ever I had before. But I still doubt of many famous incidents, which have passed current for many ages. To instance in one, I cannot believe there was ever such a nation as the Amazons in the world. The whole affair of the Argonauts I judge to be equally fabulous: as Mr. *Briant* has shewn many parts of antient history to be. And no wonder, considering how allegories and poetic fables have been mistaken for real histories.

After preaching at *Rochdale*, I was agreeably surprized by a young woman that called upon me. Several years ago, a girl thirteen or fourteen years old was remarkable for piety. But a year or two after, when I called upon her with great expectation, she had not the least favour of it left. She came on purpose to inform me, that God had restored her, and she was now determined, to live and die to him. God grant she may! She will either be an abandoned apostate, or a shining christian.

Friday 27. The house was well filled at five. I have not seen so large a morning congregation, in proportion to the size of the town, since I re-

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turned to *England*. I was invited to breakfast at *Bury*, by Mr. *Peele*, a callico printer, who a few years ago began with five hundred pounds, and is now supposed to have gained fifty thousand pounds. O what a miracle if he lose not his soul !

Thence we went on to *Bolton*. Here are eight hundred poor children taught in our Sunday schools, by about eighty masters, who receive no pay, but what they are to receive from their great Master. About a hundred of them (part boys and part girls,) are taught to sing. And they sang so true, that all singing together, they seemed to be but one voice. The house was thoroughly filled, while I explained and applied the first commandment. What is all morality or religion without this ? A mere castle in the air. In the evening many of the children still hovering round the house, I desired forty or fifty to come in and sing, "Vital spark of heavenly flame." Although some of them were silent, not being able to sing for tears, yet the harmony was such as I believe could not be equalled in the King's chapel.

Sunday, August 5. In the morning I met the Select Society, a lovely company of humble, simple christians. Several of them appeared to have sound and deep experience of the things of God, and to stand stedfast in the liberty where-with Christ had made them free. The house was at ten full and warm enough. I preached on those words in the first lesson, *How long halt ye between two opinions ?* And was enabled to press the question home, on the consciences of the hearers. We had five clergymen, (although three only could officiate) and twelve or thirteen hundred communicants. And the Master of the feast was in the midst of us, as many found, to their unspeakable comfort. After preaching in the evening, I took a solemn leave of the affectionate Society. Here, at least, it undeniably appears, that

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that we have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Having taken the whole coach for *Birmingham*, we set out at twelve o'clock at night, expecting to be there as usual, about five the next evening. But having six within, and eight without, the coach could not bear the burden, and broke down before three in the morning. Having patched it together as well as we could, we went on to *Congleton*, and got another. But in an hour or two, this broke also. And one of the horses was so thoroughly tired, that he could hardly set one foot before the other. After all these hindrances, we got to *Birmingham* just at seven. Finding a large congregation waiting, I stepped out of the coach into the house, and began preaching without delay. And such was the goodness of God, that I found no more weariness, when I had done, than if I had rested all the day.

Here I took a tender leave of Mrs. *Heath* and her lovely daughters, about to embark with Mr. *Heath* for *America*: whom I hardly expect to see any more, till we meet in *Abraham's bosom*.

Tuesday 7. Setting out a little before five, we reached *Worcester* between ten and eleven: resting till half past twelve, and taking fresh horses at *Tewksbury*, we reached *Gloucester* before five o'clock. About seven I preached to a numerous congregation in the new house, on *I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ*, and strongly applied the words to those whom they concerned. This night was one of the hottest I ever felt in Europe.

Wednesday 8. We set out at two, and from the time it was light, rode through one of the pleasantest countries I ever saw. Before five we came to *Rodbury Place*, but we were far too early for so genteel a family. Before we reached *Malmsbury*, one of my horses fell lame: so I sent my own chaise and horses directly to *Bristol*, and took post chaises the rest of the day.

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About half hour after four we came to *Salisbury*, designing to go straight forward to *Southampton*. But to our great surprise, there was not a post-chaise to be hired in the town. After waiting some time we were informed that notice had been given of my preaching in the evening. I then saw the providential reason, why we could not leave *Salem*. The house was full enough in the evening, and great was the power of God in the midst of them.

Thursday 9. Desiring to be at *Southampton* as soon as possible, we took chaise at four in the morning, and came thither between eight and nine. We found too sloops nearly ready to sail: the Captain of one promised to sail the next morning. So we sat down content. At seven in the evening I preached in Mr. *Fay's* school-room, to a small but deeply serious congregation, on *It is appointed to men, once to die*. I believe, some of these will not be forgetful hearers, but will bring forth fruit with patience.

Friday 10. At six I preached to nearly the same number on Heb. iv. 14. In the afternoon I went with a gentleman (Mr. *Taylor*) to hear the famous musician that plays upon the glasses. By my appearing there (as I had foreseen) a heap of gentry attended in the evening. And I believe several of them, as well as Mr. *T.* himself, did not come in vain.

Saturday 11. We went on-board the *Queen*, a smart Sloop, and sailed eight or nine leagues with a tolerable wind. But it then grew foul, and blew a storm, so that we were all glad to put in at *Yarmouth Harbour*. About six Dr. *Coke* preached in the market-house to a quiet and tolerably attentive congregation. The storm continuing, at eight in the morning, Sunday 12. I preached to a much larger congregation. I had uncommon liberty of speech, and I believe some of them felt, that God was there. At eleven we went to Church.

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Church. There was a tolerable congregation, and all remarkably well behaved. The minister read prayers very seriously, and preached on *Blessed are the poor in spirit*. At four I preached again on *Luke xix. 42.* (part of the second lesson in the morning) *O that thou hadst known, &c.* the market house was now more than filled. And not a few seemed to hear as for life. In the evening Dr. Coke preached again. We have now delivered our own souls at *Yarmouth*, and trust God will suffer us to go on to *Guernsey*.

Monday 13. We set out from *Yarmouth* with a fair wind; but it soon turned against us, and blew so hard, that in the afternoon, we were glad to put in at *Swanage*. I found we had still a little Society here. I had not seen them for thirteen years, and had no thought of seeing them now: but God does all things well. In the evening I preached in the Presbyterian meeting-house, not often I believe, so well filled; and afterwards passed half an hour very agreeably with the minister, in the parsonage house, which he rents, a neat retired house, with a delightful garden. Thence we adjourned to the house of our old Brother *Collins*, and between eight and nine went on board.

Tuesday 14. Sailing on with a fair wind we fully expected to reach *Guernsey* in the afternoon. But the wind turning contrary and blowing hard, we found it would be impossible. We then judged it best, to put in at the isle of *Alderney*. But we were very near being shipwrecked in the Bay. When we were in the middle of the rocks, with the sea rippling all round us, the wind totally failed. Had this continued we must have struck upon one or other of the rocks. So we went to prayer, and the wind sprung up instantly. About sunset we landed, and though we had five beds in the same room, slept in peace.

About eight I went down to a convenient spot on the Beach, and began giving out a hymn: a woman,

woman, and two little children joined us immediately. Before the hymn was ended we had a tolerable congregation; all of whom behaved well, part indeed continued at forty or fifty yards distance; but they were all quiet and attentive.

It happened (to speak in the vulgar phrase) that three or four who sailed with us from *England*, a gentleman with his wife and sister, were near relations of the Governor. He came to us this morning, and when I went into the room behaved with the utmost courtesy. This little circumstance may remove prejudice, and make a more open way for the Gospel.

Soon after we set sail, and after a very pleasant passage, through little Islands on either hand, we came to the venerable castle, standing on a rock, about a quarter of a mile from *Guernsey*. The Isle itself makes a beautiful appearance, spreading as a crescent to the right and left: about seven miles long, and five broad, part high land, and part low. The town itself is boldly situated, rising higher and higher from the water. The first thing I observed in it was, very narrow streets, and exceeding high houses. But we quickly went on to Mr. de *Jersey's*, hardly a mile from the town. Here I found a most cordial welcome, both from the master of the house, and all his family. I preached at seven, in a large room, to as deeply serious a congregation as I ever saw, on *Jesus Christ, of God made unto us wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption.*

Thursday 16. I had a very serious congregation at five, in a large room of Mr. de *Jersey's* house. His gardens and orchards are of a vast extent, and wonderfully pleasant. And I know no Nobleman in Great Britain, that has such variety of the most excellent fruit, which he is every year increasing either from *France*, or other parts of the Continent. What quantity of fruit he has, you may conjecture, from one sort only. This summer he gathered fifty pounds of *Strawberries* daily, for six weeks together. In

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In the evening I preached at the other end of the town in our own Preaching house. So many people squeezed in (though not near all who came) that it was as hot as a stove. But this none seemed to regard, for the word of God was sharper than a two edged sword.

Friday 17. I waited upon the governor, and spent half an hour very agreeably. In the afternoon, we took a walk upon the pier, the largest and finest I ever saw. The town is swiftly increasing; new houses starting up on every side.

In the evening, I did not attempt to go into the house, but stood near it in the yard surrounded with tall, shady trees, and proclaimed to a large congregation, *God is a Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.* I believe many were cut to the heart this hour, and some not a little comforted.

Saturday 18. Dr. Coke, and I dined at the governor's. We conversed seriously for upwards of an hour, with a sensible, well-bred, agreeable man. In the evening I preached to the largest congregation I have seen here, on Jer. viii. 22. and they were all attention. Surely God will have a people in this place.

Sunday 19. Mr. Bradford preached at six in the morning at *Mont Les Plaisir Terres*, to a numerous congregation. I preached at half an hour past eight, and the house contained the congregation. At ten I went to the *French* church, where there was a large and well behaved congregation: At five we had the largest congregation of all: of whom I took a solemn and affectionate leave. As it is probable I may not see them any more, till we meet in Abraham's bosom.

Monday 20. We took ship between three and four in the morning, in a very small inconvenient sloop, and not a swift sailer, so that we were seven hours in sailing what is called seven leagues. About eleven we landed at *St. Helier's*, in *Jersey*,
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and went straight to Mr. *Brackenbury's* house. It stands very pleasantly near the end of the town, and has a large, convenient garden, with a lovely range of fruitful hills, which rise at a small distance from it. I preached in the evening to an exceeding serious congregation, on Matt. iii. &c. And almost as many were present at five in the morning, whom I exhorted to *go on to perfection*, which many of them, Mr. *Clarke* informs me, are earnestly endeavouring to do.

Tuesday 31. We took a walk to one of our friends in the country. Near his house stands what they call The College. It is a free school, designed to train up children for the University, finely situated, in a quiet recess, surrounded by tall woods. Not far from it stands on the top of a high hill (I suppose a *Roman* mount) an old chapel, believed to be the first Christian church which was built in the island. From hence we had a view of the whole island, the pleasantest I ever saw, as far superior to the *Isle of Wight*, as that is to the *Isle of Man*. The little hills, almost covered with large trees, are inexpressibly beautiful: it seems they are to be equalled in the *Isle of Guernsey*. In the evening I was obliged to preach abroad on, *Now is the day of salvation*.

Wed. 22. In the evening the room not containing the people, I was obliged to stand in the yard. I preached on Rom. iii. 22, 23, and spoke exceeding plain. Even the gentry heard with deep attention. How little things does God turn to his own glory. Probably many of these flock together, because I have lived so many years! And perhaps even this may be the means of *their* living for ever!

Thursday 23. I rode to St. *Mary's*, five or six miles from St. *Helier's*, through shady pleasant lanes. None at the house could speak *English*, but I had interpreters enough. In the evening our large room was thoroughly filled. I preached

on

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on, *By grace ye are saved through faith.* Mr. Brackenbury interpreted sentence by sentence, and God owned his word, though delivered in so awkward a manner. But especially in prayer: I prayed in *English*, and Mr. Brackenbury in *French*.

The houses here are exactly like those in the interior parts of *Wales*, equal to the best farmers' houses in *Lincolnshire*. And the people in general are far better behaved than our country farmers in *England*.

Friday 24. I returned to St. *Helier's*. The high wind in the evening prevented my preaching abroad. However on more than the house would contain, I enforced those awful words, *It is appointed unto men once to die.* I believe the word fell heavy on all that heard, and many wished to die the death of the righteous.

Sat. 25. Having now leisure, I finished a sermon on *Discerning the Signs of the times*. This morning I had a particular conversation, (as I had once or twice before) with Jeannie Biffon of this town, such a young woman as I have hardly seen elsewhere. She seems to be wholly devoted to God, and to have constant communion with him. She has a clear and strong understanding, and I cannot perceive the least tincture of enthusiasm. I am afraid, she will not live long. I am amazed at the grace of God which is in her. I think she is far beyond Madam Guion, in deep communion with God. And I doubt whether I have found her fellow in *England*. Precious as my time is, it would have been worth my while to come to *Jersey*, had it been only to see this prodigy of grace.

In the evening God was with us in a very uncommon manner, while I opened and enforced those comprehensive words, *We preach Christ crucified.* I know not when we have had such an opportunity. It seemed as if every soul present would have found the salvation of God!

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Sunday

Sunday 26. Dr. Coke preached at five and I at nine o'clock. Afterwards I heard the *English* service at church: but the congregation was nothing near so large as ours at five in the morning. We had a *French* sermon in our room at three. Afterwards I met the Society; many of whom came from the country, and had no *English*. So Mr. Brackenbury interpreted for me again: afterwards we both prayed. Many of the people seemed greatly affected. Between five and six I began preaching in the yard. But before I had finished my sermon, it poured down with rain. So I was obliged to conclude abruptly.

Monday 27. Captain Cabot, the master of a *Guernsey* sloop, called upon us early in the morning and told us, "If we chose to go that way, he would set out between five and six." But the wind being quite contrary, we judged it best to wait a little longer. In the evening being appointed to preach at seven, I was obliged to preach within. We were extremely crowded: but the power of God was so manifested while I declared, *We preach Jesus Christ and him crucified*, that we soon forgot the heat, and were glad of being detained a little longer than we intended.

I thought when I left *Southampton*, to have been there again on this day. But God's thoughts were not as my thoughts. Here we are, shut up in *Jersey*: for how long we cannot tell. But it is all well: for thou, Lord, hast done it. It is my part, to improve the time, as it is not likely I shall ever have another opportunity of visiting these islands.

Tuesday 28. Being still detained by contrary winds, I preached at six in the evening to a larger congregation than ever, in the assembly room. It conveniently contains five or six hundred people. Most of the gentry were present, and I believe felt that God was there in an uncommon degree.

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degree. I preached there again the next evening, to a larger congregation than ever. I now judged, I had fully delivered my own soul: and in the morning the wind serving for *Guernsey*, and not for *Southampton*, I returned thither not unwillingly, since it was not by my choice, but by the clear Providence of God. For in the afternoon I was offered the use of the assembly room, a spacious chamber in the market-place, which would contain at least thrice as many as our former room. I willingly accepted the offer, and preached at six to such a congregation as I had not seen here before. And the word seemed to sink deep into their hearts. I trust it will not return empty.

Wed. 29. I designed to have followed the blow in the morning. But I had quite lost my voice. However it was restored in the evening, and I believe all in the assembly room, (more than the last evening,) heard distinctly, while I explained and applied, *I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God.* In the morning, Thursday 30. I took a solemn leave of the Society. We set out about nine, and reached *St. Peters'* in the afternoon. Good is the will of the Lord. I trust he has something more for us to do here also. After preaching to a larger congregation than was expected on so short a notice, on *God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself*, I returned to *Mont-Plaisir*, to stay just as long as it should please God. I preached there in the morning, Friday 31, to a congregation serious as death. Afterwards I looked over Archbishop *Usher's* Letters, and was surprized to find, that great man was fully convinced, 1. That the Septuagint translation continually adds to, takes from, and changes the *Hebrew* text at pleasure. 2. That this could not possibly be owing to mistake, but must have been done by design. 3. That the original translation of it was lost long ago, and what has

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ever since gone under that name is a spurious copy, abounding with omissions, additions, and alterations of the *Hebrew* text; yet not such as any way destroys the foundation.

I designed to preach abroad in the evening: but the furious wind drove us into the house. However our labour was not lost; for many felt the sharpness of the two edged sword, while I was expounding Gal. vi. 14.

Saturday, September 1. This day twelvemonth I was detained in *Holland* by contrary winds. All is well, so we are doing and suffering the will of our Lord. In the evening the storm driving us into the house again, I strongly exhorted a very genteel audience, (such as I have rarely seen in *England*) to *ask for the old paths and walk therein*.

Sunday 2. Being still pent up by the North East wind, Dr. Coke preached at six in the morning to a deeply affected congregation. I preached at eight on Rom. viii. 33. At one, Mr. *Vivian*, a local preacher, preached in *French*, the language of the Island. At five, as the house would not contain half the congregation, I preached in a tolerably sheltered place, on the *joy there is in heaven over one sinner that repenteth*; and both high and low seemed to hear it gladly. I then designed to meet the Society: but could not. The people pressed so eagerly on every side, that the house was filled presently: so that I could only give a general exhortation, *To walk worthy of their profession*.

I was in hopes of sailing in the morning, Monday 3. but the storm so increased that it was judged impracticable. The congregation in the evening increased every day: so I trust we were detained for good purpose. They appeared to be more and more affected; so that I believe we were not detained for nothing.

Tuesday 4. The storm still continued. I took a walk to day, through what is called the *New Ground*,

Ground, where the gentry are accustomed to walk in the evening: both the upper ground, which is as level as a bowling green, and the lower, which is planted with rows of trees, is wonderfully beautiful. In the evening I fully delivered my own soul by shewing what it is to *build upon a rock*. But still we could not sail, the wind being quite contrary as well as exceeding high. It was the same on Wednesday. In the afternoon we drank tea at a friend's, who was mentioning a Captain just come from France, that proposed to sail in the morning for *Penzance*, for which the wind would serve, though not for *Southampton*. In this we plainly saw the hand of God. So we agreed with him immediately: and in the morning, Thursday 6, went on board with a fair, moderate wind. But we had but just entered the ship when the wind died away. We cried to God for help: and it presently sprung up, exactly fair, and did not cease till it brought us into *Penzance-bay*.

We appeared to our friends here, as men risen from the dead. Great was their rejoicing over us: and great was the power of God in the midst of the congregation, while I explained and applied those words, *Whosoever doth the will of God, the same is my brother and sister and mother*.

Saturday 8. Dr. Coke preached at six, to as many as the preaching-house would contain. At ten I was obliged to take the field, by the multitude of people that flocked together. I found uncommon liberty of speech among them, and cannot doubt but the work of God will flourish in this place. In the evening I preached at *St. Ives*, in a very convenient field at the end of the town, to a very numerous congregation, I need scarce add, and very serious: for such are all the congregations in the county of *Cornwall*.

Sunday 9. About nine I preached at the copper-works, three or four miles from *St. Ives*, to a large congregation gathered from all parts, I

believe with the demonstration of the Spirit. I then met the Society in the preaching-house, which is unlike any other in *England*, both as to its form, and materials. It is exactly round, and composed wholly of brazen flags, which I suppose will last as long as the earth. Between one and two I began in the market place at *Redruth*, to the largest congregation I ever saw there. They not only filled all the windows, but sat on the tops of the houses. About five I began in the pit at *Gwenap*. I suppose we had a thousand more than ever were there before. But it was all one : my voice was strengthened accordingly, so that every one could hear distinctly.

Monday 10. I had a large congregation at five, and a peculiar blessing. Thence I went to Mr. *Mills*, the Rector of *Kenwin*, half a mile from *Truro*, a house fit for a nobleman, and the most beautifully situated of any I have seen in the county. At noon I preached in the house at *Truro*. It was well filled with deeply attentive hearers. Thence we went on through a swiftly improving country to St. *Austle*, and preached in the new house, though not quite finished, to a crowded audience, who seemed all sensible, that God was there. The old house was well filled at five in the morning, Tuesday 11. I did not design to preach at *Liscard* : but finding a few people gathered together, I gave them a short discourse and then went on to *Tarpoint*, where several of our brethren from the Dock, were waiting for us : we crossed over without loss of time, to an earnest affectionate people. The house would ill contain the congregation in the evening, and a joyful meeting it was.

Wed. 12. We went over to *Mount Edgecomb*, and walked through all the improvements. The situation is fine indeed : the lofty hill, nearly surrounded by the sea, and sufficiently adorned with trees, but not crowded, is uncommonly pleasant. But it did not strike me like Lord *Harcourt's*

Harcourt's seat at Nuneham. And are all these things to be burnt up!

At noon I preached at *Plymouth*. The house was crowded enough, and a solemn awe sat on all the people. As likewise in the evening at *Plymouth Dock*. There is an excellent spirit in this people: and such general peace and unanimity as never was before.

Thursday 13. We set out early and dined at *Exeter*. In the evening we had a crowded congregation, that drank in every word. This Society likewise increases both in number and strength. Friday 13. we took the mail coach, and in the afternoon came to *Bath*. Considering the uncertain notice which had been given, we had a larger congregation than was expected. And many found it a comfortable season; particularly those that were in heaviness.

15. With the assistance of two of my friends I answered abundance of letters. In the evening we had an uncommon congregation, on whom I strongly enforced the first principles, (which indeed never can be too much enforced) *By grace ye are saved through faith.*

Sunday 16. I read prayers at ten, and preached with a peculiar blessing, and administered the Lord's-supper to an unusual number of deeply serious communicants. At half past two I began again. The chapel was more than filled. Many could not get in: and it was the same case at six in the evening. At both times I preached considerably longer than I usually do. Surely the time is come, when God will cause his power to be known here also.

Monday 17. Leaving this Society in a better state, than it has been in for many years, I went to *Bristol*, by the way I preached at *Wintanburn*, on the foundation of a new preaching-house. There was much rain before I began, and a violent wind all the time I was preaching. I had now two or three days to answer my letters.

Every

Every evening our room was well filled with deeply attentive hearers.

Friday 21. I spent the evening at the school, and was much pleased with the management of it.

Sunday 23. In the morning my brother read prayers and I preached: in the afternoon I preached in Temple Church to a very large and serious congregation. My brother desired to preach in the evening. So by the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.

On Monday and the following days I visited the country Societies, and had the satisfaction to find most of them growing in grace, and not decreasing in number.

Thursday 27. About noon I preached at *Castle-Cary*. How are the times changed! The first of our preachers that came hither, the zealous mob threw into the horse-pond. Now high and low earnestly listen to the word that is able to save their souls. In the evening I preached at *Ditchet*. Friday 28. I preached at *Ditchet* again, at *Shepton Mallet*, and at *Pensford*, to such a congregation as I have not seen there for many years, and on Saturday returned to *Bristol*.

Sunday 30. I read prayers and my brother preached. I preached in the avenue at *Kingwood* about two, and at five near King's Square, probably the last time this year that I shall preach in the open air.

Monday, October 1. and the three following days, I spoke to the Society one by one, and was much refreshed, as the love of many was not grown cold, and their number considerably increased.

Friday 5. I preached at noon in *Kainham*, and the power of God was present in an uncommon degree. So it was, when I met the children at *Misa Bishop's*, and afterwards those at *Mr. Simpson's*. I verily think, the spirit and behaviour of these

these two sets of children, gradually affects the whole place, which now retains scarce any thing of the brutality and savageness for which it was eminent some years ago. In the evening we had a watch-night at *Kingwood*. The weather was exceeding rough. Yet the house was filled; and few went away, till after the noon of night.

Sunday 7. I preached morning and evening, and took a solemn leave of this affectionate people. Monday 8. Having taken the whole mail coach on Saturday, I went to it on Monday between three and four, and found to my great surprise, it was filled with other passengers, and the clerk faced me down, I had taken the coach for Sunday. But some of our friends speaking strong words, they thought good to provide us another coach: only it did not reach town quite so soon. I was however soon enough, to meet a large congregation on Tuesday evening, and praise the Lord together.

Wednesday 10. I retired and spent the rest of the week in answering letters and preparing matter for the magazine.

Sunday 14. I preached in *West-street* chapel morning and afternoon, and at *St. Swithin's* church in the evening. Monday 15. I began a little tour through *Oxfordshire*. I preached at *Wallingford* in the evening, with much enlargement of heart. Mr. *Pentecost* called upon me in the morning, Tuesday 16. Calvinism and bitterness are fled away together, and we willingly gave each other the right hand of fellowship. About one I preached at *Oxford*, to a very quiet deeply serious congregation. The house at *Witney* would nothing near contain the congregation in the evening: It was well filled at five on Wednesday morning. I dearly love this people; they are simple of heart, and much alive to God. After dinner we returned to *Oxford*. Half an hour before the hour of preaching a heavy rain began.

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By this means the house was filled, and not over filled; I found great liberty of speech in enforcing the first and great commandment. And could not but hope there will be a great work of God here, notwithstanding all the wisdom of the world.

Thursday 18. We went on to *High Wycombe*. The work of God is so considerably increased here, that although three galleries are added to the preaching house, it would scarce contain the people. Even at five in the morning, Friday 19, it was thoroughly filled. Never before was there so fair a prospect of doing good at this place. I dined in *London*.

Sunday 21. I preached in the morning at *Spitalfields*, with the usual success: in the afternoon at the New Chapel, on the remarkable answer of *Balaam* to *Balak's* question *Micah vi. 10*. How clear light had *Balaam* at that time! But he soon turned back, and loved darkness rather than light!

Monday 22. I went to *Canterbury*, and preached in the evening on the first and great commandment: in the morning Tuesday 23, on the second. We then went on to *Dover*. In the evening I strongly applied the parable of the sower to a crowded audience. Wednesday 25. I spoke equally plain in the morning. About noon after an intermission of fifteen years I preached at *Sandwich*, to more than the house contained, on *Luke ix. 62*. God applied his word to many hearts, so that I have at length a hope for *Sandwich* also. In the evening I preached at *Margate*. The word was quick and powerful. So it was likewise in the morning Thursday 26. Here is now a lively, loving Society, who adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.

In returning to *Canterbury*, I called upon Mr. *Kingsford*, a man of substance as well as piety. He informed me, "Seven years ago I so entirely lost the use of my ankles and knees, that I could

no more stand than a new born child. Indeed I could not lie in bed without a pillow laid between my legs, one of them being unable to bear the weight of the other. I could not move from place to place, but on two crutches. All the advice I had, profited me nothing. In this state I continued above six years. Last year I went on business to *London*, then to *Bristol* and *Bath*. At *Bath* I sent for a physician: but before he came, as I sat reading the Bible I thought, "*Asa* sought to the physicians and not to God," but God can do more for me than any physician. Soon after I heard a noise in the street, and rising up, found I could stand. Being much surprized, I walked several times about the room; then I walked into the square, and afterwards, on the *Bristol* road, and from that time, I have been perfectly well: having as full a use of all my limbs as I had seven years ago."

We had a comfortable opportunity in the evening, and early in the morning. And I left *Canterbury*, Friday 26. with a strong hope, that the work of God will flourish here, as it has not done for many years. In the evening I preached to a lovely congregation at *Chatham*, and on Saturday returned to *London*.

Monday 29. I looked over all the manuscripts which I had collected for the Magazine, destroyed what I did not think worth publishing, and corrected the rest. Tuesday 30. I went down to Miss *Harvey's*, at *Hinaworth*, in *Herefordshire*. Mr. *Simcoe* from *Cambridge* met me there, who breathes the very spirit of Mr. *Fletcher*: the chapel was quite crouded in the evening. I preached on that inexhaustible text and with much liberty of spirit, *By grace ye are saved through faith*. In the morning, Wednesday 31. I preached on the woman of *Canaan*, and in the afternoon went over to Mr. *Hick's* at *Wrestlingworth*, through such roads as no chaise could pass; so we had the pleasure of riding in a farmer's cart. It was such
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a motion as I never felt before : but, to make amends, the church was so filled as I never had seen it. And I was enabled to speak with unusual plainness. Surely some received the truth in the love thereof !

Thursday Nov. 1. I gave a fair reading to Dr. Gerard's Essay on Taste. I should have wondered, but that I had read his Plan of Education, wherein he advises to read *Logic last*. Such advice could never have been given, but by one that knew nothing about it. Indeed he has hardly a clear idea of any thing. Hence it was natural for him to produce this strange performance, wherein he talks prettily, but quite wide of the mark, stumbling at first setting out. For genius is no more invention, than it is sense, or memory.

Friday 2. I set out early, and about noon preached at *Barnet*, to a small, serious congregation. I then went on to *London*.

Sat. 3. I had a long conversation with Mr. *Clulow*, on that execrable Act, called the Conventicle Act of Toleration, with that of the 14th of Queen Ann: we were both clearly convinced, that it was the safest way to license all our Chapels, and all our travelling Preachers, not as Dissenters, but simply "Preachers of the Gospel." And that no Justice or Bench of Justices has any authority to refuse licensing either the house or the preachers.

Sunday 5. The congregation at the New Chapel was far larger than usual. And the number of Communicants was so great, that I was obliged to consecrate thrice. Monday 5. In my way to *Dorking*, I read Mr. *Duff's* Essay on Genius. It is beyond all comparison deeper and more judicious than Dr. G's Essay on that subject. If the Dr. had seen it (which one can hardly doubt) 'tis a wonder he would publish his Essay. Yet I can't approve of his method. Why does he not first define his term, that we may know what he

is talking about? I doubt, because his own idea of it is not clear. For *genius* is not *imagination* any more than it is *invention*. If we mean by it a quality of the soul, it is in its widest acceptation, an extraordinary capacity, either for some particular art or science, or for all, for whatever may be undertaken. So *Euclid* had a genius for mathematics, *Tully* for oratory: *Aristotle* and Lord *Bacon* had an universal genius applicable to every thing.

Tuesday 6. I preached about noon at *Mitcham*. We preached here some years ago, but despairing of doing any good, totally left the place. A year or two ago a spark fell upon it, which is now kindled into a flame. So that the work of God is more lively here, than in any Society near London. I found more life than I expected in the evening, among the poor people at *Wandsworth*, who have been long swallowed up in the cares of this world. But as they have a little more business, so they have more care for their souls, and seem determined, to recover the ground they had lost.

Friday 9. A friend offering to bear my expences, I set out in the evening and on Saturday 10, dined at *Nottingham*. The preaching house (one of the most elegant in *England*,) was pretty well filled in the evening. Sunday 11, at ten, we had a lovely congregation. And a very numerous one in the afternoon. But I believe, the house would hardly contain one half of those that came to it. I preached a Charity Sermon for the Infirmary, which was the design of my coming. This is not a County Infirmary, but is open to all *England*, yea to all the world. And every thing about it is so neat, so convenient, and so well ordered, that I have seen none like it in the three kingdoms. Monday 12, we took coach again, and on Tuesday returned to *London*.

Thursday 15. Even at *Poplar*, I found a remarkable revival of the work of God. I never

saw the preaching house so filled before : and the power of the Lord seemed to rest on many of the hearers.

Sunday 18. We had as usual, a large congregation and a comfortable opportunity at *Spital-fields*. Monday 19. I began the unpleasing work of visiting the Classes. I still continue to do this in *London* and *Bristol*, as well as in *Cork* and *Dublin*. With the other Societies, their respective assistants supply my lack of service.

Sunday 25. I preached two Charity Sermons at *West-street*, in behalf of our poor children. Herein I endeavoured to warn them, and all that bring them up against that *English* Sin, Ungodliness, that reproach of our nation, wherein we excel all the inhabitants of the earth.

Thursday 29. I preached at Mr. *Edwards's* in *Lambeth*. How wonderfully does God fit people for their work ! Here Mrs. *Edwards*, a person of no extraordinary natural abilities, teaches near a hundred children, and keeps them in as good, if not better order than most school mistresses in the kingdom !

Friday 30. I met the Committee, to consider the state of our temporal circumstances. We are still running backward. Some way must be found, to make our income answer our expences.

Sat. Dec. 1. I saw an uncommon instance of distress, a gentlewoman who used to keep her coach, shut up with her four children in a dark dirty room (her husband being imprisoned for debt) without almost any of the necessaries of life. No wonder if she had chose strangling rather than life.

Sunday 2. I was prest in spirit to warn our people in strong terms, of the *Laodicean* spirit which had crept in among them. They received the reproof. And many began to stir up the gift of God that is in them : which immediately appeared

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appeared from the very great increase of the morning congregations.

Tuesday 4. I retired to *Rainham*, to prepare another edition of the New Testament for the press. Wed. 5. I preached at *Paorfleet*, to a deeply serious congregation, many of whom walk in the light of God's countenance. Thursday 6. I preached to a large congregation at *Rainham*. I trust some good will be done here also.

Friday 7. I returned to *London*, and again considered, what was to be done in our present temporal circumstances? After much consultation, they desired me, 1. To appoint a few of our brethren, to divide the town between them, and desire our brethren that were able, to assist in this exigence: 2. That a collection should be made in all our preaching-houses for the same purpose. Above three hundred pounds. were raised by these means, whereby the whole difficulty was removed.

Sunday 9. I went down at half hour past five, but found no Preacher in the chapel, though we had three or four in the house. So I preached myself. Afterwards enquiring, why none of my family attended the morning preaching? They said, it was because they sat up too late. I resolved to put a stop to this. And therefore ordered, that 1. Every one under my roof should go to bed at nine; that 2. Every one might attend the morning preaching. And so they have done ever since.

Monday 10. I was desired to see the celebrated Wax work at the Museum in Spring-Gardens. It exhibits most of the crowned heads in Europe, shews their characters in their countenance. Sense and majesty appear in the King of *Spain*: dulness and sottishness in the King of *France*; infernal subtlety in the late King of *Prussia* (as well as in the skeleton *Voltaire* :) calmness and humanity in the Emperor, and King of *Portugal*: ex-

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quisite stupidity in the Prince of *Orange*? And amazing coarseness, with every thing that is unamiable in the *Czarina*.

In the evening I preached at *Peckham* to a more awakened congregation than ever I observed there before.

Thursday 13. I preached in the evening at Miss *Teulon's* in *Highgate*. I never saw such a congregation there before. Will there then be good done here at last! Well; nothing is too hard for God!

Sunday 16. After preaching at *Spitalfields*, I hastened to *St. John's, Clerkenwell*, and preached a Charity Sermon for the *Finsbury Dispensary*, as I would gladly countenance every institution of the kind.

Tuesday 18. I retired to *Newington* and hid myself for almost three days. Friday 21. The Committee proposed to me, 1. That families of men and women should sit together in both chapels. 2. That every one who took a pew should have it as his own; thus overthrowing at one blow the discipline, which I have been establishing for fifty years!

Sat. 22. I yielded to the importunity of a painter, and sat an hour and a half, in all, for my picture. I think it was the best that ever was taken. But what is the picture of a man above fourscore!

Monday 24. We had another meeting of the Committee: who after a calm and loving consultation, judged it best, 1. That the men and women should sit separate still, and 2. That none should claim any pew as his own, either in the New Chapel, or West-Street.

[N. B. A part of Mr. Wesley's Journal which should come in here, is lost or mislaid, and cannot be found at present.]

Feb. 25, 1788. I took a solemn leave of the congregation at West-Street, by applying once more what I had enforced fifty years before, *By grace*

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ye are saved through faith. At the following meeting, the presence of God in a very marvellous manner filled the place. The next evening we had a very numerous congregation at the New Chapel, to which I declared the whole counsel of God. I seemed now to have finished my work in *London*. If I see it again, well : if not I pray God to raise up others, that will be more faithful and more successful in his work !

Thursday 28. I set out in the mail-coach, and the next morning came to *Bath*. Here I found a pleasing prospect, the congregations are larger than ever. The Society is at length at unity in itself, and consequently increases both in grace and number.

Sat. March 1. (Leap-year.) I considered, What difference do I find by an increase of years ? I find, 1. Less activity : I walk slower, particularly up hill. 2. My memory is not so quick : 3. I can't read so well by candle light. But I bless God, that all my other powers of body and mind, remain just as they were.

Sunday 2. I preached at eleven, at half an hour past two, and at half hour past five. The first congregation was large, and so was the second, but the third was far the largest, filling every corner of the house. And the power of God seemed to increase with the number of the people : insomuch that in the evening, while I was applying, *For me to live, is Christ, to die is gain*, the glory of the Lord seemed to overshadow the congregation, in an uncommon manner. And I trust the impression then made upon rich and poor will not soon wear off.

Monday 3. I went on to *Bristol*, and having two or three quiet days, finished my Sermon upon Conscience. On Tuesday I gave notice of my design to preach on Thursday evening, upon (what is now the general topic,) *slavery*. In consequence of this, the house from end to end was filled with high and low, rich and poor. I

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preached on that ancient prophecy, *God shall enlarge Zaphet. And he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.* About the middle of the discourse, while there was on every side attention still as night, a vehement noise arose, none could tell why, and shot like lightning through the whole congregation. The terror and confusion were inexpressible. You might have imagined it was a city taken by storm. The people rushed upon each other with the utmost violence, the benches were broke in pieces; and nine tenths of the congregation seemed to be struck with the same panic. In about six minutes the storm ceased, almost as suddenly as it rose. And all being calm, I went on without the least interruption.

It was the strangest incident of the kind I ever remember. And believe none can account for it, without supposing some preternatural influence. Satan fought lest his kingdom should be delivered up. We set Friday apart as a day of fasting and prayer, that God would remember those poor outcasts of men, and (what seems impossible with men, considering the wealth and power of their oppressors) make a way for them to escape, and break their chains in sunder.

Friday 7. I went over to *Kingswood-School*, and found every thing there in excellent order. Sunday 9. I preached at the room morning and afternoon, and about two at the school, though the house would very ill contain the congregation. Monday 10, and the three following days I visited the Classes, which contained (after many added and many lost or removed) a little more than nine hundred members. I wonder that with such preachers there is so little increase. *Dublin* has outrun *Bristol* already. So will *Manchester*, *Sheffield*, and even *Birmingham* soon, unless they stir themselves up before the Lord.

Wednesday 12. I preached in the evening at a new place in *Little George-street*, the poorest part

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part of the city. And great was our rejoicing in the Lord, among this willing people.

Sat. 15. In the evening, having no other time, I preached once more in Temple church. I had no thought of meddling with the controversy which has lately pestered this city, till I read those words in the Second Lesson, which threw me full upon it, *Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power.* I then thought it my duty to speak clearly and strongly upon that head.

Sunday 16. I was invited by the Mayor, Mr. Edger, to preach in his chapel, and afterwards to dine with him at the mansion-house. Most of the Aldermen were at church, and a multitude of high and low. To whom I explained and applied that awful passage of scripture, the history of *Dives* and *Lazarus*.

Monday 17. I began my Northern journey in a mild, lovely morning. In the evening I preached to so crowded an audience at *Stroud*, as I have not seen there for some years. Tuesday 18. I preached in *Painswick* at ten. Here also we wanted room for the audience; and all were still as night. At six in the evening I began at *Gloucester*. Here it seems, the scandal of the cross (such is the will of God!) is ceased. High and low, rich and poor, flock together, and seem to devour the word. I preached on *building upon a rock*, and spoke with all plainness. Many, I believe, were cut to the heart, for it was a day of the Lord's power.

Wednesday 19. About noon I preached at *Tewksbury*, where also, notwithstanding the market, the house was well filled. And the people were deeply attentive.

The work of God goes on steadily here. More and more are continually convinced and converted to God. But the preaching house is far too small, so that many who came could not get in.

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We went to *Worcester* in the afternoon, where also the house is far too small for the congregation. The Methodists here have by well doing utterly put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: so that they are now abundantly more in danger, by honour than by dishonour. Thursday 21. I went to *Stourport*. Twenty years ago there was but one house here: now there are two or three streets. And as the trade swiftly increases, it will probably grow into a considerable town. A few years since Mr. *Cowell* largely contributed to the building of a preaching house here, in which both Calvinists and Arminians might preach. But when it was finished, the Arminian preachers were totally excluded. Rather than go to law, Mr. *Cowell* built another house, both larger and more convenient. I preached there at noon in a large congregation, but to a much larger in the evening. Several Clergymen were present, and were as attentive as any of the people. Probably there will be a deep work of God at this place.

Sat. 22. I breakfasted at Mr. *Lister's* in *Kidderminster*, with a few very serious and pious friends. In the evening we had a Sunday congregation at *Birmingham*.

Here there is a glorious increase of the work of God. The Society is risen to above eight hundred, so that it is at present inferior to none in *England*, except those in *London* and *Bristol*. Sunday 23. We were greatly straitened for room, many being obliged to go away. But I believe all that could squeeze in, found it good to be there. Both in the morning and afternoon, the power of God was present to heal. And so indeed it was on the two following days; particularly on Tuesday evening: while I explained, *Seest thou not, how works wrought together with his faith? And by works was his faith made perfect.*

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Wed. 26. I went on to *Wednesbury*, the mother-society of *Staffordshire*. But few of the old standers are left: I think, but three out of three hundred and fifteen: however a new generation is sprung up, though hardly equal to the former.

Thursday 27. About noon I preached at *Dudley*, and with much liberty of spirit: but with far more at *Wolverhampton* in the evening, the new house being sufficiently crowded. What a den of lions was this town for many years! But now it seems the last will be first. Friday 28. We came to our dear friends at *Madeley*. Mrs. *Fletcher's* health is surprisngly mended: and one might take her nephew for a believer of seven years standing; he seems so well established in the faith of the gospel. The congregation was surprisngly large in the evening. And great was their solemn joy, while I applied, *When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory!*

Saturday 29. Having no other time, I went over to *Salop*, and spent an afternoon very agreeably. The room was so crowded in the evening as I never saw it before: perhaps the more, by reason of two poor wretches, who were executed in the afternoon. It was given me to speak strong words, such as made the stout-hearted tremble. Surely, there is now, if there never was before, a day of salvation to this town also.

Sunday 30. I returned to *Madeley*. But we were distressed by the large concourse of people. It was too cold to stand abroad; and the church could in no wise contain the congregation. But we could not help it: so as many as could, got in, the rest stood without or went away. The Epistle led me to preach on the *three that bear record in heaven*, which proved seasonable for Mrs. *Fletcher*. In the afternoon I preached on *This is the record, that God hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.*

Monday

Monday 31. About one I preached at *Stafford* to a large and serious congregation: and about six in the evening at *Lane-end*. Our chapel not being able to contain one third of the congregation, they stood at the front of Mr. *Myat's* house, where they could all hear perfectly: and though the wind was high and extremely cold, none seemed to regard it.

Mr. *Myat* was mentioning a little circumstance, which I think worth relating for its oddness. He had two cats with kitten at once, one of which was the mother of the other, and kittened three weeks before her. But she would not suffer one of her kittens to suck at all, till it was almost starved. The younger cat seeing this, took the kitten and suckled it, till she kittened herself, and afterwards suckled it with her own kittens. Who can account for this?

Tuesday, April 1. We went on to *Borstem*, where the work of God still prospers exceedingly. Sinners, men, women and children, are still convinced and converted to God every day. And there are exceeding few that draw back, as they are much united in affection, and watch over each other in love.

In the evening, before the time of preaching came, the preaching house was more than filled. Finding it could not contain one half of the people, I ordered a table to be in the yard, where they stood very patiently, though the wind was very high and very cold. Afterwards I spent a comfortable hour with the Society, who completely filled the house.

Wed. 2. This morning I finished Mr. *Weston's* ingenious "Dissertations on the Wonders of Antiquity." Particularly, the *darkness* at our Lord's death, and the *Pool of Bethesda*. And I quite agree with him, "That the chief reason why these and many other miracles were not even mentioned by the heathen historians, is their utter contempt of the Christians, and their being

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so accustomed to the *lying wonders* which were so common in the heathen world: whence they naturally supposed, all the Christian miracles to be of the same sort.

In the evening I preached to a crowded congregation at *Newcastle under Lyne*, and God was in the midst of them. Thursday 3. I crossed over to *Leek*, where for many years we seemed to be plowing upon the sand. But at length the fruit appears. Their new house would hardly contain the congregation: although it blew a storm, so that many of the women could hardly bear up against the wind. In the evening I preached at *Congleton*. Part of the congregation were the Minister and the Mayor, with several Aldermen. But they seemed astonished while I opened and strongly applied, *Thou shalt have no other Gods before me*.

Friday 4. We had another violent storm in going to *Macclesfield*. But there all is calm. Their little feuds are removed, and the work of God steadily goes on. Sunday 6. The new church was half filled in the morning, but thoroughly in the afternoon. And great was our rejoicing in the Lord; both then, and at six in the evening.

I took a solemn leave of them at five in the morning, Monday 7, and with a deal of difficulty got to *New-Mills*, the roads over the mountains being scarce passable. — But the earnestness of the congregation made amends for the difficulty of the journey. They are all athirst for God.

Wed. 9. At noon I preached in the chapel at *Bullockssmithy*, one of the most famous villages in the county, for all manner of wickedness. But there is a change for the better already, and a fair prospect of a much greater. In the evening as well as on the next, the house at *Stockport* was thoroughly filled with people ready prepared for

for the Lord, and adorning the doctrine of God our Saviour.

Thursday 10. About noon I preached at *Ashton* to a loving and lively people, and thence went on to *Oldham*. But what could be done here? I suppose the children alone would have filled the preaching house from end to end. We kept the door locked till a little before the appointed time. Then I went in, and to as many as the house would hold, I explained the Rest that remains for the people of God: and indeed they had ears to hear. Afterward, leaving one to preach again after an hour's respite, I went on to *Manchester*.

Friday 12. The house was well filled in the evening. I explained and enforced the words of St. *James*, *Seest thou not how works wrought together with his faith, and by works was faith made perfect*. I did not hear that any were offended, for the bulk of these are an understanding people.

Sat. 12. I took a view of the public library, preferable to most in *England*. It is annexed to the Blue Coat school, wherein fourscore children are provided with all things. And all by the munificence of one man, who expressly forbade any one to add thereto.

Sunday 13. Mr. *Simpson* assisting, we dealt very well with a crowded congregation. I suppose we had about a thousand communicants. And surely God was among them. And so he was in the evening, while I applied, *Thou shalt have no other gods before me*.

Monday 14. At noon I preached at *Northwich*, to such a congregation as scarce ever was seen there before: and had a good hope that after all the storms, good will be done here also. In the evening I preached to the affectionate congregation at *Chester*, who want nothing but more life and fire. Tuesday 15. I was desired to preach upon

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upon the Trinity. The chapel was sufficiently crowded. And surely God answered for himself to all candid hearers.

Wed. 16. I preached about eleven at *Warrington*, (a cold uncomfortable place) and in the evening at *Liverpool*. The house was extremely crowded, and I found great liberty of spirit: but still more the next evening, while I was opening and applying the Parable of the Sower. How much seed has been sown in this town? And, blessed be God, all is not lost. Some has brought forth thirty, some sixty, and some a hundred fold.

Friday 18. Notice having been given at *Wigan*, of my preaching a sermon for the Sunday schools, the people flocked from all quarters in such a manner as never was seen before. I spoke with all possible plainness on, *Repent ye and believe the gospel*. And it seemed to sink deep into the hearts of the hearers. Surely *the kingdom of heaven is at hand*.

Sat. 19. We went on to *Bolton*, where I preached in the evening, in one of the most elegant houses in the kingdom, and to one of the liveliest congregations. And this I must avow, there is not such a set of singers in any of the Methodist congregations in the three kingdoms. There cannot be, for we have near a hundred such trebles, boys and girls, selected out of our Sunday schools, and accurately taught, as are not found together in any chapel, cathedral, or music room within the four seas. Besides, the spirit with which they all sing, and the beauty of many of them so suits the melody, that I defy any to exceed it, except the singing of angels in our Father's house.

Sunday 20. At eight and at one, the house was thoroughly filled. About three I met between nine hundred and a thousand of the children belonging to our Sunday schools. I never saw such a sight before. They were all exactly clean, as
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well as plain in their apparel. All were serious and well behaved. Many, both boys and girls, had as beautiful faces, as, I believe, *England* or *Europe* can afford. When they all sung together, and none of them out of tune, the melody was beyond that of any theatre. And what is best of all, many of them truly fear God, and some rejoice in his salvation. These are a pattern to all the town. Their usual diversion is, to visit the poor that are sick, (sometimes six or eight, or ten together) to exhort, comfort, and pray with them. Frequently ten or more of them get together, to sing and pray by themselves: sometimes thirty or forty: and are so earnestly engaged alternately singing, praying, and crying, that they know not how to part. *You*, children, that hear this, why should not *you* go and do likewise? Is not God here, as well as at *Bolton*? Let God arise and maintain his own cause! Even out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.

Monday 21. I went on through miserable roads to *Blackburn*: where, notwithstanding the continued rain, the new preaching house was thoroughly filled with serious, well behaved people. Tuesday 22. Through equally good roads, we got on to *Paddiham*. I preached at eleven to as quiet a congregation, though not so lively, as that at *Bolton*. From hence we went in the afternoon, through still more wonderful roads, to *Haslanden*. They were sufficient to lame any horses, and shake any carriage in pieces.

A gentleman, no way connected with us, has built us a neat preaching house here, desiring only three per cent for what he has laid out, (about eight hundred pounds) provided the seats set for so much, of which there is little doubt. It was well filled in the evening with serious people. Wednesday 23. We hobbled on to *Bury*, through roads equally deplorable, but we met a lively congregation, which made us forget our labour. In the evening I preached to another
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lively congregation at *Rochdale*. Formerly we had much trouble here : but it is past, and they now hold the unity of the spirit, in the bond of peace.

Thursday 24. About ten we began the service in the church at *Todmorden*, crowded sufficiently. I found uncommon liberty among these poor mountaineers. We had a pleasant road from hence to *Burnley*, where a multitude of people were waiting. But we had no house that could contain them. Just then the rain ceased : so we went into the inn yard, which contained them well. And it was an acceptable season, as indeed it was both the times before, when I preached at *Bury*.

Friday 25. In the evening I preached at *Coln*. This is the fifth rainy day we have had. However the house was pretty well filled. And I strongly exhorted them that had left their first love, *To remember from whence they had fallen, to repent and to do their first works.*

Sunday 27. I preached at *Haworth* church in the morning, crowded sufficiently : as was *Bingley* church in the afternoon : but as very many could not get in, Mr. *Wrigley* preached to them in the street, so that they did not come in vain. In the evening we went on to *Halifax*.

Monday 28. The house in the evening was thoroughly filled with hearers that devoured the word. Tuesday 29. I was desired to preach in the church at *Sowerby*, four miles from *Halifax*. It stands on the brow of a high and steep mountain. Rich and poor flocked together to it : whom I exhorted to *Acquaint themselves with God and be at peace.* I found much liberty of spirit among them : and still more at *Halifax* in the evening, when it seemed, as if the windows of heaven were opened : as also at five in the morning, when I took a solemn leave of this affectionate people.

Wed. 30. About eleven the service began at *Otley*. After the Curate had read prayers to a large and serious congregation, I preached on *It is appointed for all men once to die*. I believe many felt as well as heard the word. About six I preached at *Huddersfield*: where our brethren are now all at peace and unity with each other. In the evening I went to our quiet and delightful retreat at *Longwood-house*.

Thursday, May 1. The congregation at five was exceeding large, coming from many miles round: but that at *Shelly*, six or seven miles from *Huddersfield*, where I was constrained to preach in the open air at nine, was six or seven times larger: indeed the largest I have seen since I left *Manchester*: and the power of God was eminently present, both to wound and to heal. I believe the congregation at *Wakefield* in the evening was larger even than this. And the verdure of the trees, the smoothness of the meadow, the calmness of the evening, and the stillness of the whole congregation, made it a delightful sight.

Friday 2. I went to *Bradford*. I feared the jars which had been here, would have lessened the congregation. But it was as large as ever I remember it on a week day, and deeply attentive. A great number attended again at five in the morning. In the afternoon I spent some hours with the trustees of *Eccleshill* house: but I might as well have talked to so many posts. In the evening we had a lovely congregation again, to whom I explained the former part of the fourteenth of the *Revelation*. These had ears to hear: and many of them rejoiced with joy full of glory.

Sunday 4. It was not without extreme difficulty that we could get into the church: but it was worth all the labour. I strongly applied those words in the epistle for the day, *The end of all things is at hand; be ye therefore sober and watch*

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unto prayer. It seemed, as if the whole congregation was moved. I believe that hour will not soon be forgotten.

The concourse of people at *Birstal* about four, was greater than ever was seen there before. And the wind being very high, it was feared not half of them would be able to hear. But God was better to them than their fears. Afterwards we found, that all could hear distinctly: so if they hear me no more, I am clear of their blood. I have declared to them the whole counsel of God.

Monday 5. About nine I preached to the loving people at *Morley*, on 1 Pet. i. 3. and then went forward to *Leeds*. Mr. *Floyd*, and every one in his house received me with all gladness. We had a full house in the evening. I explained and applied James ii. 22. which I suppose was never more needful to be insisted upon, than it is this day.

Tuesday 6. About eleven I accepted the invitation of Mr. *Stone*, a truly pious and active man, and preached in his church at *Rawden*, ten miles from *Leeds*, to a very serious congregation on Mark i. 15. *Repent ye and believe the gospel.*

In the evening I preached at *Otley* to a lovely congregation, and at five in the morning. At four in the afternoon I preached at *Pately-bridge*, and setting out at four on Friday morning, reached *Kendall* that evening (sixty one miles) and *Whitehaven* at five on Saturday the tenth.

The congregation rejoiced much, as they had not seen me for four years. But scarce any of the old standers are left: two and forty years have swept them away.

May 11. Whitsunday, in the morning while those words were applied, *And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost*, his power was eminently present in the congregation. But much more in the evening, - At noon Mr. *Bradford* preached in

the market-place to a numerous congregation. And I am not without hope, that poor *Whitehaven* will lift up its head again.

Monday 12. About eight I began preaching in the market-house at *Cockermouth*. I was surprized to find several of those that are called *the best of the town*, there. And they were all serious and attentive. So we had a solemn parting. From hence we went on to *Carlisle*. I never found this society so well united before. The preaching house, begun three or four years ago, is now completely finished. It is neat, lightsome, and chearful. But it was very ill able to contain the congregation. Several Ministers were there : and so was the power of God in an uncommon degree. All that were under the roof seemed to be moved more or less : and so they were in the morning, Tuesday 13. when I besought them to *present themselves a living sacrifice to God*.

To day we went on through lovely roads to *Dumfries*. Indeed all the roads are wonderfully mended, since I last travelled this way. *Dumfries* is beautifully situated, as to wood, and water, and gently rising hills. It is, I think the neatest, as well as the most civilized town that I have seen in the kingdom. *Robert Dall* soon found me out. He has behaved exceeding well, and done much good here. But he is a bold man. He has begun building a preaching-house, larger than any in *Scotland*, except those in *Glasgow* and *Edinburgh* ! In the evening I preached abroad in a convenient street, on one side of the town. Rich and poor attended from every quarter, of whatever denomination. And every one seemed to hear for life. Surely the *Scots* are the best hearers in *Europe* !

Wed. 14. At five I was importuned to preach in the preaching-house. But such a one I never saw before ! It had no windows at all ; so that although the sun shone bright, we could see nothing without candles. But I believe our Lord
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shone on many hearts, while I was applying those words, *I will, be thou clean.* I breakfasted with poor Mr. *Ashton*, many years ago a member of our Society in *London*: but far happier now in his little cottage, than ever he was in his prosperity.

When I was in *Scotland* first, even at a nobleman's table, we had only flesh meat of one kind, but no vegetables: but now they are as plentiful here as in *England*. Near *Dumfries* there are five very large public gardens, which furnish the town with greens and fruit in abundance.

The congregation in the evening was nearly double to that we had the last night. And, if it was possible, more attentive. Indeed one or two gentlemen, so called, laughed at first, but they quickly disappeared, and all were still while I explained, *the worship of God in spirit and in truth.* Two of the Clergy followed me to my lodging, and gave me a pressing invitation to their houses. Several others intended it seems to do the same. But having a long journey before me, I left *Dumfries*, earlier in the morning than they expected. We set out on Thursday at four, and reached *Glasgow* on Friday 16, before noon. Much of the country as we came is now well improved, and the wilderness become a fruitful field.

Our new preaching-house will, I believe, contain about as many as the chapel at *Bath*. But O the difference! It has the pulpit on one side, and has exactly the look of a Presbyterian meeting-house. It is the very sister of our house at *Brentford*. I preached at seven to a tolerably large congregation, and to many of them at five in the morning. At six in the evening they were increased four fold. But still I could not find the way to their hearts.

Sunday 18. I preached at eleven on the parable of the sower; at half past two on *Psalms* l. 23: and in the evening on *Now abideth these three, faith,*

faith, hope, love. I subjoined a short account of *Methodism*: particularly insisting on the circumstances. There is no other religious Society under heaven, which requires nothing of men in order to their admission into it, but a desire to save their souls. Look all round you, you can't be admitted into the Church or Society of the *Presbyterians, Anabaptists, Quakers*, or any others, unless you hold the same opinions with them, and adhere to the same mode of worship. The *Methodists* alone do not insist on your holding this or that opinion, but they *think*, and *let think*. Neither do they impose any particular mode of worship, but you may continue to worship in your former manner, be it what it may. Now I do not know any other religious Society either ancient or modern, wherein such liberty of conscience is allowed, or has been allowed since the age of the Apostles! Here is our glorying. And a glorying peculiar to us! What Society shares it with us!

Monday 19. I went to *Edinburgh*, and preached to a much larger congregation than I used to see here on a week day. I still find a frankness and openness in the people of *Edinburgh*, which I find in few other parts of the kingdom. I spent two days among them with much satisfaction: and I was not at all disappointed, in finding no such increase, either in the congregation or the Society, as many expected from their leaving the Kirk.

Thursday 22. The house at *Dalkeith* being far too small, even at eight in the morning, to contain the congregation, so I preached in a garden on *Seek ye the Lord while he may be found*: and from the eager attention of the people, I could not but hope, that some of them would receive the truth in love. In the evening I preached in the house at *Dunbar*, tolerably well filled, on *Job xxii. 2, 3.* I believe with "The Spirit of convincing Speech:" But much more, at five in

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in the morning, Friday 23. And will God manifest his power among these dry bones also? Immediately after preaching we set out. How is the face of this country changed in a few years! It was twenty years ago dreary enough; but is now as a pleasant garden. But what is most remarkable is, the bridge which connects the two mountains, *the Peas*, together: one of the noblest works in Great Britain: unless you would except the bridge at *Edinburgh* which lies directly across the *Cowgate*: so that one street (a thing not heard of before) runs under another!

About noon we came to *Berwick-upon-Tweed*. But the town being all in a hurry, on occasion of the fair, so that I could not conveniently preach in the market-house; I was glad that Mr. *Atcheson*, the Presbyterian Minister, offered me the use of his chapel. It was a large commodious place. Several of his hearers attended, to whom I spoke exceeding plain, in the evening, on 1 Cor. xiii. 3. and in the morning, on *Isaiah* lix. 1—3.

Saturday 24. About one we reached *Alnwick*. I was a little surprized at the new preaching-house, (in which I preached in the evening) exactly resembling the meeting house we hire at *Brentford*! Had they no eyes! Or had they never seen any *English* house! but the scarecrow must now stand without remedy.

Sunday 25. This was the day, on which all the Nonjuring congregation in *Scotland*, began by common agreement, to pray in all their public worship, for King George and his family. I preached at nine, at two, and at half past five; the last time on the Gospel for the day (the history of *Dives* and *Lazarus*,) with much enlargement of spirit. After preaching at five in the morning, on *Matt.* xxvi. and taking a solemn leave of the congregation, I went on to *Morpeth*, but was informed the town-hall was totally engaged;

engaged: the lower part by a company of players: the upper by a dancing-master. However the latter did scruple the having his right: so I preached to the largest congregation I ever saw there. And our Lord seemed to

“ Dart into all the melting power
Of love, and make the mountains flow.”

It was indeed a wonderful season, such as we had scarce seen since we left *Bristol*. In the evening I preached at *Newcastle*, to such a congregation, as was never there before, unless on a Sunday. And indeed all the congregations, morning and evening were such as had not been since the house was built. Surely this is the accepted time for *Newcastle*. Perhaps I may see it no more!

At noon I preached in the lower house to a very crowded congregation. And I believe most of them felt that God was there; for it was as a season of great refreshment. So it was at the upper house in the evening. I doubt not but God will be glorified in both, provided the people in each agree to provoke one another to love and good works.

Sat. 31. At five I preached in the lower house to a numerous congregation: I believe the greater part of whom had no thought of salvation, till they heard the preaching at this place. Were it only for the sake of these, I do not regret all the trouble I have had, on occasion of this building. At nine I preached in *South-Shields* to a large and serious congregation, ready prepared for the Gospel. In the evening at *Sunderland*, to an experienced people, many of whom are rooted and grounded in love.

Sunday, June 1. I accepted of Mr. *Hampson's* invitation, and preached in his church morning and afternoon. I suppose it was hardly ever so filled before. And the power of God was present

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sent to heal. It was doubted, whether all could hear? In order to try, Mr. *Bradford* stood in the farthest corner. And he could hear every word. I preached in our chapel at six. But abundance of people could not get in. I was sorry I did not preach abroad, while so many were athirst for the word.

Monday 2. About noon I preached at *Weardmouth*. I had never such a season there before. The glory of the Lord seemed to fill the house, and the people trembled before him. We had such another opportunity at *Sunderland* in the evening; surely God will be glorified in this place.

Tuesday 3. I returned to *Newcastle*, and preached in the evening on the "*Rest that remaineth for the people of God.*" A few have believed our report, and are eager to enter into it.

Thursday 5. Desiring to pay one more visit to the loving Society in *Weardale*, I set out early, and drove through wonderful roads to *Wolsingham*, a town near the entrance of the Dale. I could not preach abroad, because of the storm, and the house would not near contain the people. However as many crowded in, as could: the rest got near the door or windows, and surely the willing mind was accepted.

In the evening, the wind being still very high, I was obliged to preach within, in *Weardale* also. And it was a time of uncommon blessing. Friday 6. Going out of my room I missed a step, and fell forward, so that the edge of one of the stairs came a quarter of an inch above my right eye, exactly upon my eyelid. I put a little white paper upon it, which immediately stopped the bleeding, and preached without any inconvenience. The work of God has much increased here lately: many have been convinced of sin; many justified, some perfected in love, and many added to the Society.

Friday

Friday 6. We returned to *Stanhope*, formerly the seat of several great families, now an inconsiderable village. It is eminent for nothing in this age, but a very uncommon degree of wickedness. I preached at five, in what I understood was once the market place, to a numerous congregation, on *Isaiah* lv. 6, 7. and if ever, with the demonstration of the spirit. The people were all bowed down together, as the heart of one man. Surely God will have a people in this place!

Saturday 7. Our brethren thought the preaching-house would contain the congregation at five in the morning. It was a large upper room: but before I began to speak, it was exceedingly crowded; and the main beam that supported it giving way, the floor began to sink. Some crying out, "The room is falling," one man leaped out of the window, the rest slowly and quietly went out, without the least hurry or confusion, so that nothing was hurt, except a poor dog that was under the window. I then preached in the open air, to twice or thrice as many as the room would have contained, who were all attention! O how white are these fields to the harvest!

About twelve, I preached to a lovely congregation at *Burnupfield*, on *Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous*. I have found nothing like it, since I left *London*: such was "th' o'erwhelming power of grace divine!" I know not that ever I felt such self-abasement before. And the whole congregation seemed almost equally moved. And so they were at *Newcastle* in the evening, while I explained and strongly applied, *I am the all-sufficient God: walk before me, and be thou perfect!*

Sunday 8. I preached at the *Ballast-hills*, about half an hour after eight, I think the congregation was nearly double, to that I had here two years ago. And they are increased in earnestness as well

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well as in number. About two I preached at *Gatehead-fell*, to I suppose twice as many as were at the *Ballast-hills*, on the joy that is in heaven *over one sinner that repenteth*. Though the sun was very hot, and the wind very cold, the people regarded neither one nor the other. They seemed only to attend to the voice of God, and the breathing of his Spirit.

In the evening I preached near the Keelmen's Hospital, within sight of the place where I preached the first Sunday I was at *Newcastle*, and I think to the largest congregation, which I have seen at *Newcastle* since that time. The second lesson for the evening service supplied me with a text, 2 Cor. vi. 1. *We then, as workers, &c.* The people appeared to devour the word: and I did not spare them. I was then ready to say, *Now I am clear from the blood of these men.* No! I dare not! I judge not my own self! He that judgeth me is the Lord!

Monday 9. I preached at *Durham* about eleven, to more than the house could contain. Even in this polite and elegant city, we now want a larger Chapel. In the evening I preached near our house, to a large multitude, I think as numerous as that at *Gatehead-fell*. Many of the *Durham* militia, with several of their officers were there. And all of them seemed to receive the word, *not as the word of man, but as indeed the word of God.*

Tuesday 10. We went through one of the pleasantest countries I ever saw to *Darlington*. We had a love-feast in the evening, at which several spoke deep experience in a plain, artless manner. And many were greatly comforted, and stirred up more intensely to hunger and thirst after righteousness.

Wed. 11. About noon I preached at *Stockton*: but the house would not contain the congregation: nor indeed at *Yarm* in the evening. Here I heard what was quite new to me, namely, That it is now the custom in all good company to give

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obscene.

obscene toasts, even though Clergymen be present ; one of whom lately refusing to drink such, was put out of the room. And one of the forwardest, in this worthy company, was a Bishop's steward !

Thursday 12. Between one and two we had a larger congregation at *Poito*, than I ever saw there before. At *Hutton-Rudby* in the evening I spoke strongly to the backsliders : and I think, not in vain.

At eight I preached to a lovely congregation at *Stokesley*, with much liberty of spirit : and at eleven in *Gisborough*, to one far larger and equally attentive. In the evening I preached at *Whitby*, in the new house, thoroughly filled above and below, though it contains twice as many as the old one, and although the unfinished galleries, having as yet no fronts, were frightful to look upon. It is the most curious house we have in *England*. You go up to it by about forty steps, and have then before you a lofty front, I judge near fifty feet high, and fifty four feet broad. So much gainers have we been, by the loss of the former house. Beside that it stood at one end of the town, and in the very sink of it, where people of any fashion were ashamed to be seen.

Sat. 14. At five in the morning we had a large congregation, but it was more than doubled in the evening. And at both times, I could not but observe the uncommon earnestness of the people. Sunday 15. The house was well filled at seven. For the sake of the country people, who flocked from all sides, I preached again at half an hour past one : on *The end of all things is at hand ; be ye therefore sober and watch unto prayer*. After preaching at five on the education of children, I made a collection for *Kingswood School* ; the rather, that I might have an opportunity of refuting that poor, threadbare slander, of my "getting so much money." We concluded our service with a comfortable love-feast.

Monday

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Monday 16. From the plain people at *Whitby*, I went on to the elegant congregation at *Scarborough*. I was surprized at their flocking together in such numbers, many more than the house could contain. And I strongly enforced *Now is the accepted time, now is the day of salvation.*

Tuesday 17. Desiring Mr. *Bradford* to preach at five, I did not preach till three. I then urged on a very genteel congregation, *One thing is needful*; and surely the power of the Lord was present to heal them, in a manner I have not often found; and again in the evening, while I enforced, *He is able to save to the uttermost them that come unto God by him.*

Wed. 18. I designed to preach in the street at *Burlington*; but the wind and dust would not suffer it. So as many as could, pressed into the house, but near as many were constrained to go away. I preached on Rev. xx. 12, and I believe, not in vain.

Thursday 19. I went about forty miles out of my way, to see my old friends at *Malton*, and particularly, old Mr. *Wilson*, at whose house I first lodged there. Between eleven and twelve I began preaching on, *It is appointed for men once to die.* And God applied his word, one would almost have thought, to every one under the roof. It was a glorious opportunity! The people were gathered from many miles round, and I think few repented of their labour. As soon as the service was over, I hastened away, and reached *Beverly* (twenty eight miles) in good time. The house here, though greatly enlarged, was well filled, with high and low, rich and poor. And (it being the day of the Archdeacon's visitation,) many of the Clergy were there. I rejoiced in this, as it might be a means of removing prejudice from many sincere minds.

Friday 20. I went on to *Hull*, and in the evening explained and applied those remarkable words of our Lord, *Whoever doth the will of God, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.* The

new preaching-house here is nearly as large as the New Chapel in *London*. It is well built, and elegantly finished, handsome, but not gaudy. Saturday 22. We had a large congregation at five, larger than even that at *Birmingham*, which exceeded all the morning-congregations I had then seen. Sunday 21. Mr. *Clark* the Vicar, inviting me to preach in the high church, I explained (what occurred in the service of the day) what it is to build our house upon the rock, and applied it as strongly as I could. I dined at the Vicarage with Mr. *Clark*, a friendly, sensible man, and I believe, truly fearing God. And such by the peculiar Providence of God, are all the three stated Ministers in *Hull*. He said, he never saw the church so full before. However it was still fuller in the afternoon, when I preached on St. *James's* beautiful account of the wisdom which is from above. At six in the evening I preached in our own house to as many as could get in, (but abundance of people went away,) on Gal. vi. 14.

Monday 23. About eight we reached Mr. *Stillington's* at *Hotham*, one of the pleasantest places I have seen. At nine, he read prayers and I preached, to a large and serious congregation. At eleven I preached with much enlargement of heart, in the new chapel at *Market-Weeton*: and at half an hour after one, in *Pocklington*; but the house was like an oven. Between six and seven I began at *York*, on Rom. xiii. 12. The word was as fire, and all that heard it seemed to feel the power thereof.

Tuesday 24. Having no other opportunity, I went over to *Thirsk*, and preached in the evening on 1 Peter i. 24. All the congregation were serious, but two young women, who laughed and talked incessantly, till I turned and spoke expressly to them. They then seemed to be ashamed.

Wed. 25. Believing the little flock there wanted encouragement, I took *Ripon* in my way to *York*,

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York, and gave them a strong discourse on the story of *Dives* and *Lazarus*. Many strangers seemed greatly astonished. And I believe they will not soon forget what they heard : for God applied it to their hearts. As he did also the Parable of the Sower at York, I will hope, to most of the congregation.

Thursday 26. The Vicar of Selby having sent me word, that I was welcome to preach in his church, I went that way ; but before I came, he had changed his mind. So I preached in our own chapel, and not without a blessing. In the evening I preached at *Thorn*, to a larger congregation than ever I saw in the house before. Friday 27, at nine I preached in the church at *Swinfleet*, filled from end to end. About eleven I preached at *Crowle* to a large congregation. And I am now in hope, that there will be a good harvest here also ; seeing the almost perpetual jars are now at an end. Thence I came once more, (perhaps for the last time) to *Epworth*, where by the prudence and diligence of *T. Tattershall*, the people have now forgot their feuds, and are at unity with each other.

Sat. 28. I this day enter on my eighty-fifth year. And what cause have I to praise God, as for a thousand spiritual blessings, so for bodily blessings also ? How little have I suffered yet, by "the rush of numerous years." It is true, I am not so *agile* as I was in times past : I do not run or walk so fast as I did. My *sight* is a little decayed. My left eye is grown dim, and hardly serves me to read. I have daily some pain in the ball of my right eye, as also in my right temple, (occasioned by a blow received some months since) and in my right shoulder and arm, which I impute partly to a sprain, and partly to the rheumatism. I find likewise some decay in my memory, with regard to names and things, lately past : But not at all, with regard to what I have read or heard, twenty, forty, or sixty years ago. Neither do I find any decay in my

hearing, smell, taste, or appetite, (though I want but a third part of the food I did once,) nor do I feel any such thing as weariness, either in travelling or in preaching. And I am not conscious of any decay in writing Sermons, which I do as readily, and I believe, as correctly as ever.

To what cause can I impute this, that I am as I am? First, doubtless, to the power of God, fitting me for the work to which I am called, as long as he pleases to continue me therein: and next, subordinately to this, to the prayers of his children.

May we not impute it, as inferior means,

1. To my constant exercise and change of air?

2. To my never having lost a night's sleep, sick or well, at land or at sea, since I was born?

3. To my having sleep at command, so that whenever I feel myself almost worn out, I call it, and it comes, day or night?

4. To my having constantly, for above sixty years, risen at four in the morning?

5. To my constant preaching at five in the morning, for above fifty years?

6. To my having had so little pain in my life, and so little sorrow, or anxious care?

Even now, though I find pain daily, in my eye, or temple, or arm, yet it is never violent, and seldom lasts many minutes at a time.

Whether or not this is sent, to give me warning, that I am shortly to quit this tabernacle, I do not know: But be it one way or the other, I have only to say

My remnant of Days

I spend to his praise

Who died the whole world to redeem:

Be they many or few,

My days are his due,

And they all are devoted to Him!

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I preached in the morning on *Psalms* xc. 12: in the evening on *Acts* xiii. 40, 41. and endeavoured to improve the hours between to the best advantage.

Sunday 29. At eight I preached at *Misferton*; as usual: about one, to a numerous congregation at *Newby* (near *Haxey*) and about four at my old stand in *Epworth* market-place, to the great congregation. Here there used to be a few mockers: but there were none now: all appeared serious as death, while I applied those solemn words, *When the breath of man goeth forth, &c.* We concluded with a love-feast, at which many declared with an excellent spirit the wonderful works of God.

Monday 30. About eight I preached in *Scotter*, and found it good to be there. About eleven I preached at *Scowby*, two miles from *Brigg*, to a very numerous and serious congregation. In the afternoon, going just by that curious building *Mr. Pelham's Mausoleum*, I alighted, and took a view of it within and without. The like, I suppose, is not to be found in *England*. It is exactly round, fifty-two feet in diameter, and will be sixty-five feet high. The lower part contains, I believe, near a hundred places for the bodies of the *Pelham* family, (O what a comfort to the departed Spirits, that their carcases shall rot above ground!) Over this is to be a chapel. It is computed the whole building will cost sixty thousand pounds.

About five we came to *Grimby*, and the Vicar reading prayers, I preached on the *Psalms* for the day, *He healeth them that are broken in heart, and giveth medicine to heal their sickness.* I think the church is near as large as that at *Hull*: and it has not been so well filled in the memory of man before. All were seriously attentive: many received the word with joy, and some doubtless will bring forth fruit to perfection.

Tuesday, July 1. The Vicar again read prayers at eleven, and I preached on those words in the second Lesson, *Lord, are there few that be saved?*
I spoke

I spoke as plain as possibly I could : but God only can speak to the heart.

The gentleman at whose house I was to lodge coming from *Lowth* to meet me, his headstrong horse crushed his leg against a gate, with such force, that both the bones were broke and came through his boot. The horse stood by him, till some countrymen came; put him into a cart, and brought him home. It is doubtful whether he will recover, but death is no terror to him.

I preached in *Lowth* at six in the preaching-house; but perhaps I had better have been in the market-place. At five in the morning the room was filled : and I spoke, as doubting whether I should see them any more. At eleven I preached at that lovely spot *Langhamrow*. Although Mr. *Robinson* has made the chapel twice as large as it was, yet it would hardly contain the congregation. And most of these are in earnest to save their souls : as well as himself, and his wife and sixteen children.

Thursday 3. I was going to preach at *Tuxford*, near the end of the town. But the gentry sent and desired me to preach in the market-place, which I accordingly did, to a large and attentive congregation, on *It is appointed unto men once to die*.

Thence we went to *Raithby*, an earthly Paradise ! How gladly would I rest here a few days : But it is not my place. I am to be a wanderer upon earth. Only let me find rest in a better world. At six I preached in the church to such a congregation as I never saw here before. But I do not wonder if all the contry should flock in hither, to a palace in the midst of a Paradise.

Friday 4. I set out early from *Raithby*, and at eight preached in *Horncastle*. My design was, to have preached seriously, for which purpose I chose that text, *The harvest is ended, the summer is past, and we are not saved*. But I was turned, I knew not how, quite the other way, and could
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preach scarce any thing but consolation. I believe this was the very thing which the people wanted; although I knew it not.

We reached *Lincoln* about twelve. A very numerous congregation of rich and poor, were quickly assembled. I preached below hill, in *Mrs. Fisher's* yard, a large and commodious place. From the quietness of the people, one might have imagined, that we were in *London* or *Bristol*. Indeed the dread of the Lord was on every side, and surely his power was present to heal.

In the evening I preached in our new house at *Gainborough*, which was crowded sufficiently. I spoke strong words on *Now is the accepted time*, which seemed to sink deep into the hearts of the hearers. Saturday 5. in the evening I preached at *Ouston*, to such a congregation both for number and seriousness, as I hardly ever saw here before. Afterwards I took a view of what was lately the glory of the town, the great mansion house, built by the late *Mr. Pindar's* Father, when I was a little child. His grandson has left it desolate and without inhabitant, has taken away all the pictures and furniture, blocked up the windows, and cut down the fine rows of trees, which formed the avenue! "So fleets the Comedy of Life away."

Sunday 16. At eight we had such another congregation as that in the evening: to which I expounded that comfortable scripture, the former part of the fourteenth of the *Revelation*. I came to *Epworth* before the church service began, and was glad to observe the seriousness with which *Mr. Gibson* read prayers, and preached a plain, useful sermon; but was sorry to see scarce twenty communicants, half of whom came on my account. I was informed likewise, that scarce fifty persons used to attend the Sunday service. What can be done, to remedy this sore evil?

I fain would prevent the members here from leaving the church. But I cannot do it. As *Mr. G.* is not a pious man, but rather an enemy

to piety, who frequently preaches against the truth, and those that hold and love it. I cannot with all my influence, persuade them either to hear him, or to attend the Sacrament administered by him. And the case of *Epworth* is the case of every Church, where the Minister neither loves nor preaches the Gospel. The Methodists will not attend his ministrations. What is then to be done?

At four I preached in the market-place, on *Rom. vi. 23.* And vehemently exhorted the listening multitude to chuse the better part.

Monday 7. Having taken leave of this affectionate people, probably for the last time, I went over to *Finningly*, and preached at eleven on that verse in the second Lesson, *Luke xix. 42.* After dinner we walked over Mr. *H's* domain, the like to which I never saw in so small a compass. It contains a rabbit warren, deer, swans, pheasants in abundance, besides a fish-pond, and an elegant garden. Variety indeed! But is there not danger, that such a multitude of things should divert the mind from the *one thing needful*?

In the evening I preached at *Doncaster*. I never before saw this house so filled, much less crowded. And it was, in a manner I never knew before filled with the presence of God, while I earnestly enforced, *Acquaint now thyself with Him, and be at peace.* One fruit of this was, that the congregation at five in the morning, was larger than it ever was before in the evening. Surely those who now heard will be without excuse, if they do not know the day of their visitation!

We were much distressed at *Rotherham* for want of room, the rain driving us into the house. However we stowed in it as many as we possibly could; and God bore witness to his word. Wednesday 9. After dining with that lovely old man, Mr. *Sparrow*, I went on to *Sheffield*. The house was much crowded, though one of the largest

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largest in *England*, but all could hear distinctly. In the morning, Thursday 10. at five we had an evening congregation, and the people seemed to devour the word. Here and at *Hall* are the two largest morning congregations which I have seen in the kingdom.

Friday 11. We set out for *Derby*. About nine, within about a mile of the *Peacock*, suddenly the axletree of my chaise snapt asunder, and the carriage overturned. The horses stood still till *Jenny Smith* and I crept out at the fore-windows. The broken glass cut one of my gloves a little, but did us no other damage. I soon procured another chaise and went on to *Derby*, where I preached in the evening: and at five in the morning on Saturday the 12th, and then went on to *Nottingham*.

Sunday 13. I began the service at ten: but I knew not how I should get to the end, being almost exhausted, when I had finished my sermon, when Mr. *Dodwell* came, who, though very weak through the ague, assisted me in administering the Lord's Supper to a very large number of communicants. After preaching in the evening, I made a collection for *Kingswood-School*. To-day I had just as much work as I could do.

Monday 14. The mail coach being full, I crossed over to *Newark*, and had the satisfaction of seeing in the evening, not only a numerous, but likewise a serious and deeply attentive congregation.

Wed. 16. I arrived in *London*, and consulted with a few friends concerning the state of things, which was better than I expected. The Society is increased, and the ordinary hearers in all parts of the town, not diminished. Meantime there is reason to hope, the work of God goes on, though by slow degrees. On the following days I looked over my books and papers, and set them in order as well as I could. Sat. 19. I spent an hour in *Chesterfield Street*, with my widowed sister

sister and her children. They all seemed inclined to make the right use of the late providential dispensation.

Sunday 20. Both in the morning and evening I preached at the New Chapel, crowded sufficiently, on Heb. v. 12. *Ye have need that a man should teach you again, which be the first principles of the oracles of God.* Monday 21. I retired to *Highbury-Place*, and spent the residue of the week in answering letters, revising papers, and preparing for the Conference.

Sunday 27. In the morning I preached at *West-street*, and in the afternoon in *Bethnal-Green* church, on our Lord's lamentation over Jerusalem. I believe the word did not fall to the ground. I preached at the New Chapel every evening during the Conference, which continued nine days, beginning on Tuesday July 29, and ending on Wed. August 6. And we found the time little enough, being obliged to pass over many things very briefly, which deserved a fuller consideration.

Sunday, August 3. I preached at the New Chapel, so filled as it scarce ever was before, both morning and evening. Monday 4. at five we had a good evening congregation. And I believe, many felt the power of the word, or rather, of God speaking therein.

One of the most important points considered at this Conference was, That of leaving the Church. The sum of a long conversation was, That in the course of fifty years, we had neither premeditatedly nor wilfully varied from it in one article either of doctrine, or discipline: 2. That we were not yet conscious of varying from it, in any point of doctrine: 3. That we have in a course of years, out of necessity, not choice, slowly and warily varied in some points of discipline, by preaching in the fields, by extemporary prayer, by employing Lay Preachers, by forming and regulating Societies, and by holding yearly Conferences. But we did none of these things till

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till we were convinced, we could no longer omit them, but at the peril of our souls.

Wed. 6. Our Conference ended as it began, in great peace. We kept this day as a fast, meeting at five, nine, and one, for prayer, and concluding the day with a solemn watch-night.

The three following days I retired, revised my papers, and finished all the work I had to do in London. Sunday 10. I was engaged in a very unpleasing work, the discharge of an old servant. She had been my housekeeper at *West-street* for many years, and was one of the best housekeepers I had had there. But her husband was so notorious a drunkard, that I could not keep them in the house any longer. She received her dismissal in an excellent spirit, praying God "to bless us all."

I preached in the morning at *West-street* to a large congregation, but to a far larger at the New Chapel in the evening. It seems the people in general do not expect that I should remain with them a great while after my brother, and that therefore they are willing to hear while they can. In the evening we set out in the mail-coach, and early in the morning got to *Portsmouth*.

They have lately built a neat Preaching-house in the town; it is well situated near the midst of the town, and has three well-constructed galleries. I preached at noon, to a large and well-behaved audience, and to a much larger in the evening. I believe the word took place in many souls. All went away as still as night.

Tuesday 12. Mr. *Bradford* preached at five in the morning. I preached in the new house about six in the evening, and guarded them against that deadly Antinomianism which has so often choaked the good seed here. In the evening I preached at our house on the Common. Afterwards meeting the Society, I took a solemn leave of them, which I hope they will remember if they see me no more.

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Wed. 13. We crossed over to *Sarum*, where I preached in the evening with much enlargement of heart. Thursday 14. Setting out about three, we came to *Gloucester* early in the afternoon. I spoke very plain, both in the evening and the morning.

Friday 15. We went on to *Monmouth*. I preached both in the evening and the next morning with the demonstration of the Spirit: and all the congregation, rich and poor, appeared to be sensible of it. Saturday 16. We had an easy journey to *Brecon*, where I preached in the evening. Sunday 17. I preached in the room at eight, on the fruit of the Spirit. In the evening I preached in the spacious town hall, so filled as it had never been before. I think there is a little company here, that are truly alive to God. Monday 18. I went on to *Caermarthen*, and preached at six on 2 Cor. v. 19. And again at five in the morning, Tuesday 19, when the room was well filled. A servant of Mr. *Bowen's* came early in the morning, to shew us the way to *Llyngwair*. And it was well he did. For I do not know that we could otherwise have found our way thither. We met as I expected with a hearty welcome. At five I preached in *Newport* church, to a large congregation, and with a greater prospect of doing good, than ever I had before. We passed an agreeable evening at *Llyngwair*. Wednesday 20, I went to *Tracoon*, one of the most venerable seats in *Great Britain*. The good old house is buried in woods and mountains, having no resemblance to any place I have seen. It is just suited to the good old Admiral, with his four maiden sisters, the youngest of whom, I suppose, has lived more than seventy years. I preached at twelve, and in the afternoon went on to *Haverford West*. The room was filled sufficiently, and I could not but believe God will build up the waste places.

Thursday 21. The room was well filled at five. Finding there had been no discipline here for
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some time, I determined to begin at the foundation, and settle every thing. So I first visited and regulated the Classes, then restored the Bands, which had been totally neglected, and then gave directions for meeting the leaders both of Bands and Classes. After preaching in the evening, I met the Society and gave them a warm exhortation, To set out anew. I trust they will : and all the present Preachers, I am persuaded, will neglect nothing.

Friday 22. I went to *Pembroke*. Here likewise, not one thing, but every thing had been neglected ! No stewards, no bands, half of the preaching places dropped : all the people cold, heartless, dead ! I spoke earnestly in the evening, and the word was as fire. Surely some fruit will follow !

Sunday 24. We had a lovely congregation at *St. Daniel's*, and a remarkable blessing. In the afternoon I returned to *Haverford-West*, and preached in a large open space near the great church, to such a congregation as I have not seen in *Wales* for many years. I explained and applied the Parable of the Sower, and God clothed his word with power. I know not, whether I have had such an opportunity before, since I left *London*.

Monday 25. I spent another night at *Caermarthen* very agreeably. Tuesday 26. I preached at *Kidwelly* at nine ; between twelve and one at *Lanelly*, (to all the gentry in the town !) and in the evening to a multitude of people at *Swansea*. Wed. 27. Far more than the room would contain, attended at five in the morning. About eight I preached in our new preaching-house at *Neath*. And in the afternoon reached *Fontegary*, and found Mrs. *Jones*, with several of her children about her, on the margin of the grave. Worn out with that dreadful disease, a cancer ; she uttered no complaint, but was all patience and resignation, shewing the dignity of a christian, in weakness, pain, and death. I preached on, *It*

is appointed unto men once to die! And I believe all present felt the awful truth.

I had intended to go on to *Cowbridge* the next day, but being much importuned to give one day more to a dying friend, I yielded, and desired another preacher to supply my place. In the evening I preached on Psalm cxlvi. 3, 4. The scene before us greatly confirmed the word. Friday 29, that they might not be offended, I went to *Cowbridge*. In half an hour's notice, we had a large congregation in the town hall, to whom I shewed the nature and pleasantness of religion, from Prov. iii. 17. I returned to *Fontigary*, took my last leave of the dying saint, and then went on to *Cardiff*. In the evening I preached (probably for the last time) to a very genteel congregation in the town hall. Saturday 30. I returned to *Bristol*.

Sunday 31. Mr. *Collins* came very opportunely, to assist me at the morning service. Otherwise I should have been distressed: for such a number of communicants I never saw here before. I would fain have preached abroad: but the ground was too wet. So I preached within, on *Ye cannot serve God and Mammon*.

Wed. Sept. 3. I made a little beginning of some account of my Brother's life. Perhaps I may not live to finish it. Then let it fall into some better hands!

Thursday 4. I had the satisfaction of spending an hour with that excellent woman, Lady ——. Not quite so honourable, but full as much devoted to God, and as useful, as even Lady *Betty Hastings*! What is too hard for God! We see, even this is possible with God, to raise a Lady and a Saint in one person!

Friday 5. We had a solemn watch-night at *Kingswood*. The school is now in just such a state as I wish. Mr. *M'Geary* has three pious and able assistants, out of those who were brought up in it. And I doubt not it will supply a sufficiency of masters for the time to come.

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Sat. 6. I walked over to Mr. *Henderson's* at *Hanham*, and thence to *Bristol*. But my friends, more kind than wise, would scarce suffer it. It seemed so sad a thing, to walk five or six miles! I am ashamed that a Methodist Preacher, in tolerable health, should make any difficulty of this.

Sunday 7. Having none to assist me, I found it hard work to read prayers, preach, and administer the sacrament to such a number of people. The moment I had done, I hastened to *Kingswood*, having but just time to take a little dinner, before I began preaching to a large congregation, before the preaching house. Returning to *Bristol*, I preached at five in *Carolina Court*, to an immense number of people, on Rom. viii. 33, 34.

Tuesday 9. I saw the large church at *Midsummer-Norton*, thoroughly filled with serious hearers. The room at *Shepton-Mallet*, though greatly enlarged, could in no wise contain the congregation. At five in the morning, Wednesday 10, it was thoroughly filled. Thursday 11. We had a lovely congregation at *Frome*, both in the evening and at five in the morning. At length this wilderness too, as it has long appeared to be, begins to bud and blossom as the rose.

About two o'clock, Friday 12, I preached in the preaching house yard at *Trowbridge*, where notwithstanding the harvest, we had an unusually large congregation, who listened with deep attention. In the evening at *Bradford* to as many as the house would contain. But I did not find good Mrs. *Ballard* there. After long struggling with a deep nervous disorder, which for a time depressed the mind as well as the body, the cloud removed; her load fell off, and her spirit joyfully returned to God.

Sat. 13. I found the Society at *Bath* in a more flourishing state than it had been for many years. And the congregation in the evening was unusually large, and as usual, seriously attentive.

Sunday 14. We had twice as many communicants as I ever remember here. Just before service

Mr. *Shepherd* came, and offered me his assistance. It could not have been more seasonable. I had much liberty of spirit, the first time I preached to day : but greater at half past two, and the greatest of all in the evening, when I vehemently enforced those awful words, *Why will ye die, ye house of Israel!*

Monday 15. I returned to *Bristol*, and on the four following days, was sufficiently employed in meeting the Classes. At each end of the town, the Society increases greatly. It does not decrease in any part! Glory be to God.

Friday 19. Being prest to preach to the poor people in *George-street*, and knowing the house would not contain half the congregation in the evening, I began at five, by which means we had room for all that could attend at so early an hour. O what an advantage have the poor over the rich! These are not wise in their own eyes, but all receive with meekness the ingrafted word, which is able to save their souls.

Sat. 20. I met the trustees for the new room, who were all willing to add a codicil to the deed of trust, in order to ascertain to the Conference (after me) the sole right of appointing the Preachers in it.

Sunday 21. I preached morning and afternoon al the room ; and at three in *Temple Church*, so filled as I never saw it before. In the evening I spent an hour in fixing the places of the several Classes, at the Society ; a thing necessary to be done ; although it is certain some will be not a little displeased.

Tuesday 23. An end was put to the long contest between Dr. *Coke* and Mr. *Durbin*, by the Doctor's acknowledging, " that the words he had wrote were too keen, and that he was sorry he had given Mr. *D.* so much uneasiness."

Wed. 24. I took a walk in Miss *Goldney's* garden at *Clifton*. Nothing can be more pleasant. But what is most remarkable is, the long terrace walk, commanding a most beautiful prospect, and the

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the grotto, the largest and most beautiful in its kind that I ever saw. It is admirably well laid out, and decorated with a surprizing variety of shells and glittering fossils: "The procuring and placing of which (we were informed) took the late Mr. Goldney above twenty years!" And he has left it all!

Friday 26. We had a fast day, which was concluded with a solemn watch-night. At the close of this, we sung "Ye virgin souls arise" accompanied by the *Gloucestershire* band of music. Such a concert was never heard in that house before, and perhaps never will be again.

Sat. 27. Two or three friends took me to *Blaise* castle, about five miles from *Bristol*. Mr F—— a person of exquisite taste, built it some years ago, on the top of a hill, which commands such a prospect all four ways as nothing in *England* excels. Thence we went to Lord *Clifford's* seat at *King's Weston*. His house, one of the most beautiful I ever saw, stands on a little eminence in his Park, and fronts all four ways. The prospect is fine every way, commanding both the land and the water. The rooms are very elegantly furnished, particularly with excellent pictures. And must the owner leave all these beautiful things? Will death have no more respect for a Lord than for a beggar?

Sunday 28. I set out in the mail coach. Tuesday 30. Having for the present settled my business at *London*, in the evening I took coach for *Lynn*, and came thither about noon on Wed. October 1. I spent all the time with much satisfaction, as I never found them so much alive before. On Friday 3. I set out for *Norwich*, in the coach oddly called *the Expedition*. Going through *Deerham* about noon I was desired to preach, which I willingly did, on *Isaiah xxxvii. 3*. And in the evening to a huge congregation at *Norwich*, on the Parable of the Sower.

Sunday 5. Was a comfortable day, especially at seven in the morning, when I administered
the

the Lord's-Supper, and at two in the afternoon and six in the evening, when I preached to very serious congregations. Monday 6. I preached at *Loddon*, *Morth-Cove*, and *Lowestoff*. When I came into the town, it blew a storm, and many cried out "So it always does when he comes." But it fell as suddenly as it rose.

Wed. 8. I preached at *Caster* about noon and at *Yarmouth* in the evening. Thursday 9. I returned to *Norwich*, and after preaching in the afternoon, took coach for *London*.

Friday 10. I appointed a committee for auditing my accounts and superintending the business of the book-room. Which I doubt not will be managed in a very different manner, from what it has been hitherto.

Sunday 12. I preached in the morning at the New Chapel; in the afternoon at *West street*.

Monday 13. I went to *Wallingford*, and preached to a serious, and much affected audience.

Tuesday 14. I preached at *Witney*, which I generally find a very comfortable place. I think much of the impression which was made upon the people here, at the time of the great storm, remains still.

Wednesday 15. I preached at *Oxford* on Gen. i 27. We wanted only a larger room. Many young gentlemen were there, and behaved well. I hope some of them did not come in vain. Thursday 16. We went on to *High Wycombe*.

Mr. Murlin's settling here has been of great use. Here is now a steady and understanding people; to whom I preached as usual, evening and morning, with a good deal of satisfaction. Friday 17. We returned to *London*.

Sunday 19. We had, as usual, a comfortable time at *Spitalfields*. Monday 20. I set out for *Northamptonshire*.

In the evening I preached to the lovely congregation at *Whittlebury*, standing fast in the liberty, wherewith Christ has made them free.

Wed. 22. I made one more trial of poor *Towcester*; if happy God might yet breathe on

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on the dry bones, by opening and strongly applying these words; *I will heal thy backsliding: I will love thee freely*: in the evening, and on Thursday morning I preached at *Northampton*, in the new Presbyterian meeting house, a large and elegant building, I think, not without effect, and then returned to *London*.

Tuesday 28. I took the stage coach for *Rye*, which promised to be there by six in the evening. But the coachman lingered so, that in the afternoon, I found they did not intend to be there till near eight. So at *Hawkhurst* I took a post chaise, which, with much ado, reached it soon after six. Being informed the service was begun, I did not stay to eat or drink, but went directly to the preaching-house, which was sufficiently crowded, and as soon as I could get through the people, I began with solemn prayer, and then explained and applied that glorious truth, *God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself*. We had another happy opportunity at five in the morning. Knowing now, there was no depending on the coach, I took chaise and by that means came early to *Sevenoaks*, where in the evening I found uncommon liberty of spirit, in exhorting the audience to *worship God in spirit and in truth*.

Sat. Nov. 1. All saint's day, I preached at *Snowfields* on Rev. xiv. 1, a comfortable subject, and I always find this a comfortable day. Monday 3. I began visiting the Classes, a work which usually takes up about a fortnight. Sunday 9. I preached at *West-street*, and found uncommon liberty in enforcing that caution, *Quench not the Spirit*. On Wed. 12, and the following days, I visited the country Societies. Some of which, that of *Mitcham* in particular, is swiftly increasing in the grace of God.

Monday 17. I set out for *Hertfordshire*. In the evening I preached at *Hinxworth* to a deeply serious congregation: the next evening in the church at *Wrestlingworth*, to the largest congregation I have seen there these twenty years.

Wednesday

Wednesday 19. I crossed over to *Bedford*, but where to lodge I did not know. But one met me in the street, and said Mr. — desired I would go straight to his house. I did so, and found myself in a palace, the best house by far in the town, where I was entertained not only with the utmost courtesy, but I believe, with sincere affection. Our room was much crowded in the evening, and pretty well filled in the morning. And as all disputes are at an end, there is great reason to hope, that the work of God will increase here also.

Thursday 20. We had a lovely congregation at *St. Neot's*, who seemed ripe for the promises. So I preached on our Lord's words to the leper, *I will: be thou clean!* Friday 21. About noon I preached at *Huntingdon*: and in the evening at *Godmanchester*. Still it is the day of small things here: but a few are still fighting the good fight of faith.

Monday 24. I went to *Canterbury*. As all the Preachers are in earnest, God has blessed them through the whole Circuit. This evening we had a large and deeply serious congregation, and not a few of them in the morning. Tuesday 25. Though it blew a storm, and was piercing cold, we were sufficiently crowded at *Dover*, where the work of God is very lively, and continually increasing. Wed. 26. Our room at *Sandwich* being small, both the dissenting ministers sent to offer me the use of their chapels. I willingly accepted one of them, which was far larger than ours, and very commodious: I believe God spoke to many hearts. In the evening we had another storm, with much snow and sleet: however our house at *Margate* was well filled: and I was much comforted by the earnestness of the congregation.

Friday 28. A little preaching-house being just built at *St. Peter's* (two miles from *Margate*) notice had been given, without my knowledge, of my preaching there in the morning. It was utterly inconvenient on many accounts: the wind

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wind was piercing cold, and the ground covered with snow. However I would not disappoint the congregation. So I preached at nine and hastened to *Canterbury*, where the house was as usual well filled: and God gave us his blessing.

Tuesday, December 2. I went to *Chatham*, and preached in the evening on, *We walk by faith, not by sight*. Wed. 3. I went to *Sheerness*, where the Society is considerably increased since I was here before. Thursday 5. At noon I preached at *Faversham*, where, after a long winter, the seed seems to be springing up. The congregation was very large and deeply attentive. In the evening I preached in the new house at *Brumpton*. I had not preached there between thirty and forty years: And there is now a fair prospect here also. Friday 5. I returned to *London*.

Monday 8. I had the pleasure of meeting an old friend, who gave me a pleasing account of the glorious death of his mother, which had made so deep an impression upon him, that he was almost persuaded to be a christian. Wednesday 10, and the following days, I corrected my brother's posthumous poems: being short psalms (some few excepted) on the four Gospels, and the Acts of the Apostles. They make five volumes in quarto, containing eighteen or nineteen hundred pages. They were finished April 25, 1765.

The revival finished, April 24, 1774.

A second revival finished, Jan. 26, 1777.

A third revival finished, Feb. 20, 1780.

A fourth revival finished.

A fifth revival finished.

A sixth revival finished.

A seventh revival finished.

The last revival finished, May 1787.

Many of these are little, if any, inferior to his former poems, having the same justness and strength of thought, with the same beauty of expression;

pression; yea the same keenness of wit, on proper occasions as bright and piercing as ever.

Monday 15. In the evening I preached at Miss Teulon's school in *Highgate*. I think it was the coldest night I ever remember. The house we were in stood on the edge of the hill, and the East wind set full on the window. I counted eleven, twelve, one, and was then obliged to dress, the cramp growing more and more violent. But in the morning, not only the cramp was gone, but likewise the lameness which used to follow it.

About this time I was reflecting on the gentle steps whereby age steals upon us. Take only one instance, Four years ago my sight was as good as it was at five and twenty. I then began to observe, that I did not see things quite so clear with my left eye as with my right. All objects appeared a little browner to that eye. I began next to find some difficulty in reading a small print by candle light. A year after I found it in reading such a print by day-light. In winter 1786, I could not well read our four shilling hymn-book, unless with a large candle. The next year I could not read letters, if wrote with a small or bad hand. Last winter a pearl appeared on my left eye, the sight of which grew exceeding dim. The right eye seems unaltered; only I am a great deal nearer-sighted than ever I was. Thus are *those that look out at the windows darkened*, one of the marks of old age. But I bless God, *the grasshopper is not a burden*. I am still capable of travelling, and my memory is much the same as it ever was: and so I think is my understanding.

This week I dedicated to the reading over my brother's works. They are short poems on the Psalms, the four Gospels, and the Acts of the Apostles. Some are bad; some mean: some excellently good. They give the true sense of Scripture, always in good *English*, generally in good *verse*. Many of them are equal to most, if

if not to any he ever wrote. But some still favour of that poisonous mysticism, with which we were both not a little tainted before we went to *America*. This gave a gloomy cast, first to his mind, and then to many of his verses. This made him frequently describe religion as a melancholy thing. This so often sounded in his ears, "To the desert," and strongly persuaded in favour of solitude.

Thursday, Christmas-day. We began the service as usual, at four in the New Chapel. Notwithstanding the severe frost, which had now lasted a month, the congregation was uncommonly large. I preached here again in the evening. About eleven in the chapel at *West-street*. This was a comfortable day, as were also the two following.

Sunday 28. I preached at *Allhallow's* church, on those words in the service, *His commandments are not grievous*. The congregation was exceeding large, and seemed to taste the good word.

Tuesday 30. The frost continued severe. Yet the congregation was uncommonly large in the evening, and God warmed many hearts.

Wed. 31. A numerous company concluded the old year with a very solemn watch-night. Hitherto God hath helped us: and we neither see nor feel any of those terrible judgments, which it was said, God would pour out upon the nation, about the conclusion of the year.

For near seventy years I have observed, that before any war, or public calamity, *England* abounds with prophets, who confidently foretel many terrible things. They generally believe themselves, but are carried away by a vain imagination. And they are seldom undeceived, even by the failure of their predictions, but still believe they will be fulfilled some time or other.

Thursday, January 1, 1789. If this is to be the last year of my life, according to some of those prophecies, I hope it will be the best. I am

M

not

not careful about it, but heartily receive the advice of the angel in *Milton*,

“How *well* is thine, how long permit to heaven.”

Sunday 4. Although the extreme severity of the weather kept many tender people away; yet we had a large congregation in the evening to renew their covenant with God. And we always find when we avouch him to be our God, he avouches us to be his people.

Monday 5. At the earnest desire of Mrs. T— I once more sat for my picture. Mr. *Romney* is a painter indeed. He struck off an exact likeness at once, and did more in one hour than Sir *Joshua* did in ten! Tuesday 6. I retired to *Highbury-place*, and on Thursday 8, to *Peckham*. Here in the evening I preached to a very serious congregation, although many of them were of the better rank. But rich and poor seemed equally determined to work out their own salvation.

Friday 9. I left no money to any one in my will, because I had none. But now considering, that whenever I am removed, money will soon arise by sale of books, I added a few legacies by a codicil, to be paid as soon as may be. But I would fain do a little good while I live: for who can tell what will come after him?

Sunday 11. I again warned the congregation, as strongly as I could against conformity to the world. But who will? If hardly one in ten, yet is my record with the Most High.

Tuesday 13. I spent a day or two with my good old friends at *Newington*. Thursday 15. I retired to *Camberwell*, and carried on my Journal, probably as far as I shall live to write it. On Thursday I preached once more at *Peckham*, and did not withhold from them that had ears to hear, the whole counsel of God.

Friday 16. I looked over the finest picture of atheistical religion that I ever saw, in the account that Captain *Wilson* gives of *Thule*, King of *Pelew*.

But

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But how utterly needless is either the knowledge of God (consequently how idle a book is the Bible,) if a man be all-accomplished, that has no more knowledge of God than a horse, and no more of his grace than a sparrow?

Tuesday 20. I retired in order to finish my year's accounts. If possible, I must be a better economist, for instead of having any thing before hand, I am now considerably in debt. But this I do not like. I would fain settle my accounts, even before I die.

Sunday 25. Much of the power of God was in the congregation, both morning and afternoon. As also on Monday evening: which gave me a good hope that God will carry on his own work. At the earnest importunity of our friends on Wednesday 28, I went to open the new preaching-house at Rye. It is a noble building, much loftier than most of our houses, and finely situated at the head of the town. It was thoroughly filled. Such a congregation I never saw at Rye before. And their behaviour was as remarkable as their number: which, added to the peaceable, loving spirit they are now in, gives reason to hope there will be such a work at Rye, as has not been heretofore.

Thursday 29. I went over to *Winchelsea*, once a large, flourishing city; but ever since it was burnt by the Danes, a little inconsiderable town, though finely situated on the top of a range of hills. The new preaching-house was well filled with decent serious hearers, who seemed to receive the truth in the love of it. I returned to Rye in the afternoon, and in the evening preached to another large and serious congregation. Friday 30. We made our way through miserable roads to *Sevenoaks*, where the congregation both evening and morning was uncommonly large. So (whether I see them again or not) I cheerfully commended them to God, and the next morning returned to *London*.

M 2

Sunday,

Sunday, February 1. We had an exceeding solemn season, both morning and evening. It seemed indeed as if the skies poured down righteousness on all that lifted up their hearts to God.

Monday 2. and the following days, I spent in meeting the Classes. Friday 6. being the quarterly day for meeting the local preachers, between twenty and thirty of them met at *West-street*, and opened their hearts to each other. Taking the opportunity of having them all together, at the watch-night I strongly insisted on St. Paul's advice to *Timothy*, *Keep that safe which is committed to thy trust*, particularly the doctrine of Christian Perfection, which God has peculiarly intrusted to the Methodists.

Wed. 11. I went to *Brentford*, and found the Society still alive, and increasing both in strength and number. Thursday 12. I preached once more at *Chelsea*, where there is at length a fair and promising prospect. Friday 13. I took a view of that noble building, *Chelsea College* and all the parts of it. It is designed to lodge five hundred old soldiers, who are furnished with all things needful for life and godliness. Sunday 15. We had the usual blessing at *Spitalfields*. Monday 16. I went to *Dorking*. I scarce find any Society in *England* like this. Year after year, it seems at one stay, neither increasing nor decreasing. Only if one or two die, one or two are quickly added to fill up the number.

Tuesday 17. I examined the Society at *Deptford*, and preached there in the evening. Wed. 18. I retired into the country to finish my writings. Sunday 22. God was eminently present with us at *West-street chapel*, both in the morning and evening.

Friday 25. was the day, which I had ordered all our brethren in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, to observe with fasting and prayer for the recovery of his Majesty's health. But we had the satisfaction to hear, that before we asked (unless in private)

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private) he answered: inſomuch that the time intended for humiliation, turned into a time of thankſgiving. And both at five, at nine, at one and in the evening, we were moſtly employed in praiſes.

Sunday, March 1, was a ſolemn day indeed. The New Chapel was ſufficiently crowded both morning and afternoon, and ſew that expected a parting bleſſing, were diſappointed of their hope. At ſeven in the evening, I took the mail coach: and having three of our brethren, we ſpent a comfortable night, partly in ſound ſleep, and partly in ſinging praiſe to God. It will now quickly be ſeen whether they who prophecied ſome time ſince, That I ſhould not outlive this month, be ſent of God or not. One way or the other, it is my care, to be always ready.

Monday 2. At Bath the evening congregation was ſuch as we uſed to have on Sunday evening. And I have ſeldom ſeen a larger here. In the morning a young gentleman, who had heard me the evening before, deſired to ſpeak to me. He ſeemed greatly affected and was almoſt perſuaded to be a Chriſtian. In the afternoon he ſent his carriage, and would needs have me ſee his lady. Whether they turn back or no, they both ſeem now not far from the kingdom of God.

Wed. 3. I went on to *Bristol*, where we had a crowded congregation both this evening and the next. Sunday 8, in the evening I preached in *Temple* church to a large congregation. It was an acceptable time, eſpecially to the mourners in *Sion*.

Mr. *Baddiley* read prayers for me, but could not ſtay to aſſiſt me at the Lord's Supper. However my ſtrength was as my day. Monday 8, and the following days, I viſited the Claſſes, which do not decreaſe either in grace or number. On all theſe evenings God was eminently preſent in the congregation. On Thursday 12, the grand day of rejoicing for his Majeſty's recovery, I

M 3

preached.

preached on part of King *Hezekiah's* thanksgiving for his recovery. And indeed it was a season of solemn joy: particularly when I applied those words, *The living, the living shall praise thee, O Lord, as we do at this day.*

Friday 13. I spent some time with poor *Richard Henderson*, deeply affected with the loss of his only son, who, with as great talents as most men in *England*, had lived two and thirty years, and done—just nothing. Sat. 14. In the evening I preached in *Temple* church, perhaps for the last time, as good Mr. *Easterbrook* was suddenly taken ill the next day. Well, whatever is, is best. Sunday 15. Having Mr. *Baddiley* to assist me in the morning, I preached at *Kingswood* in the afternoon, and in the evening at the room. We concluded the day with a solemn and comfortable love-feast.

Monday 16. We set out early and dined at *Stroud*, where I had proof, that either people or preachers, or both, had left their first love. I strongly exhorted them, to remember from whence they were fallen, and do the first works. God applied his word, and I suppose two hundred were present at five in the morning. Tuesday 17. Many were present at *Gloucester* in the evening. But they seemed to be little affected. Wed. 18. I preached in *Tewkesbury* at noon. The room was crowded, and all seemed to feel what they heard. I was informed that one, who two or three years ago, had carried all his family to *America*, in quest of golden mountains, had crept back again, being utterly beggared, and forced to leave his family behind him. In the evening the house at *Worcester* was thoroughly filled with a deeply affected congregation. But we were in great want of more room. In due time, God will give us this also.

Friday 20. We went on to *Birmingham*, still increasing on every side. Hearing the cry of want of business, even in this as well as most other trading towns in *England*, I considered what

what the meaning of it should be. And the case seems plainly this. Two or three years ago business poured into *Birmingham*, and consequently more hands were wanting. But when business returned into its usual channel, they were wanted no longer. These men therefore certainly wanted business, and spread the cry over the town. The same must be the case at *Manchester*, *Liverpool*, and all other towns where there is an extraordinary trade for a time: It must subside again. And then arises the cry of "want of business."

Sat. 21. I had a day of rest, only preaching morning and evening. Sunday 22. was appointed for my opening the house at the East end of the town. It would have been crowded above measure, but that the friendly rain interposed, so that we had only a moderate congregation. It was otherwise in the evening, when heaps upon heaps were obliged to go away. How white are these fields unto the harvest! Monday 23. The congregation at *Dudley* pretty well filled the new house. Thence we hastened to *Madeley*, where I found Mrs. *Fletcher* better than she had been for many years; and young Mr. *Fletcher* much alive to God, and swiftly growing up into the spirit of his uncle. I preached in the evening, after Mr. *Horne* had read prayers to a deeply serious congregation, and again at nine in the morning, Wednesday 24, in the preaching-house she has lately fitted up. Going on to *Shrewsbury*, at six I preached on 1 Cor. xiii. 1, 2, 3. Several of the gentry, and several clergymen were there, and I believe not in vain. I had purposed to set out early in the morning, but was persuaded to stay another day, there being now a fairer prospect in *Salop* than had been before. I preached morning and evening. I have cast my bread upon the waters, and hope it will be found again, at least, after many days.

Thursday 26. We set out early, and taking post horses at *Clowruse*, reached *Conway* between eight

eight and nine o'clock, having travelled seventy-eight miles that day, twenty-eight more than from *Chester to Conway*.

Friday 27. We went on to *Holyhead*, and at eight in the evening went on board the *Claremont* Packet. The wind stood fair three or four hours: it then turned against us, and blew hard. I do not remember, I was ever so sick at sea before. But this was little to the cramp which held most of the night with little intermissions. All Saturday we were beating to and fro, and gaining little ground: and I was so ill, throughout the day, as to be fit for nothing. But I slept well in the night, and about eight in the morning Sunday 29, came safe to *Dublin Quay*.

I went straight up to the new room. We had a numerous congregation, and as serious as if we had been at *West Street*. I preached on the sickness and recovery of King *Hezekiah* and King *George*: and great was our rejoicing. I really took knowledge of the change which God has wrought in this congregation within a few years. A great part of them were light and airy: now almost all appear as serious as death. Monday 30. I began preaching at five in the morning and the congregation both then and the following mornings, was far larger in proportion than those at *London*. Meantime I had letter upon letter concerning the Sunday service: but I could not give any answer, till I had made a full enquiry both into the occasion and the effects of it. The occasion was this. About two years ago it was complained, that few of our Society attended the church on Sunday; most of them either sitting at home, or going on Sunday morning to some dissenting meeting. Hereby many of them were hurt, and inclined to separate from the Church. To prevent this, it was proposed to have service at the room, which I consented to, on condition that they would attend *St. Patrick's* every first Sunday in the month. The effect was, 1. That they went no more to the meetings, 2. That three times

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times more went to *St. Patrick's* (perhaps six times) in six or twelve months, than had done for ten or twenty years before. Observe! This is done, not to *prepare for*, but to *prevent* a separation from the church.

On the mornings of this and the following week I expounded the thirteenth chapter of the first Epistle to the *Corinthians*. Such a compendium of true religion, as none but the Author of it can give. The evening congregations were exceeding large as well as deeply attentive. Friday, April 3. I preached at *Bethesda*, and with much liberty of spirit. Sat. 4. I preached in *Gravel-walk* house, so filled as I never saw it before. And they all seemed to hear as for life. It was a comfortable night.

Sunday 5. I preached in the new room at seven. At eleven I went to the cathedral. I desired those of our Society, who did not go to their parish churches, would go with me to *St. Patrick's*. Many of them did so. It was said, the number of communicants was about five hundred. More than went there in the whole year, before Methodists were known in *Ireland*.

Monday 6. To-day, and for some days following, I was so overborne with letters, that I had hardly time to do any thing but to read and answer them. Wed. 8. I visited and administered the Sacrament to our poor widows, four and twenty of whom are tolerably provided for, in our widow's house. The frowardness and stubbornness of some of these, was for a time a grievous trial to the rest. But this is past. They are all now of a better spirit, and adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour.

Thursday 9. In the evening I met, for the second time, the Bands. I admired them much: they are more open than those either in *London* or *Bristol*, and I think here is a greater number of those that are now clearly perfected in love, than I now find even in *London* itself.

Friday

Friday 10. Being Good-Friday, I accepted of the pressing invitation of Mr. *Smyth*, and preached at *Bethesda* both morning and evening. At both times we had a brilliant congregation, among whom were honourable and right honourable persons. But I felt they were all given into my hands: for God was in the midst. What a mercy is it, what a marvellous condescension in God, to provide such places as *Bethesda*, and *Lady Huntingdon's* chapels, for those delicate hearers, who could not bear sound doctrine, if it were not set off with these pretty trifles!

Sunday 12. (being Easter-day) We had a solemn assembly indeed, many hundred communicants in the morning, and in the afternoon far more hearers than our room would contain, though it is now considerably enlarged. Afterwards I met the Society and explained to them at large the original design of the Methodists, viz. Not to be a distinct party, but to stir up all parties, Christians or Heathens, to worship God in spirit and in truth; but the church of *England* in particular, to which they belonged from the beginning. With this view I have uniformly gone on for fifty years, never varying from the doctrine of the church at all: nor from her discipline, of choice, but of necessity. So, in a course of years, necessity was laid upon me, (as I have proved else where) 1. To preach in the open air; 2. To pray extempore, 3. To form Societies, 4. To accept of the assistance of Lay Preachers: and in a few other instances, to use such means as occurred, to prevent or remove evils that we either felt or feared.

We set out early on Monday 13, and about twelve reached *Clonard*, 25 *Irish* miles from *Dublin*. Three or four times as many as the house could contain, met together at five o'clock. The power of God was remarkably present; when divers were cut to the heart: and perhaps none more so than the master of the house. We had another good opportunity at seven in the morning,

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morning, Tuesday 14, which we closed with a serious, pointed conversation, and then went on to *Tyrrel's-past*.

Though the wind was piercing cold, the multitude of people obliged me to preach abroad in the evening: after which I gave them all a plain account of the design of Methodism: namely, not to separate from the church, but to unite together all the children of God that were scattered abroad.

Wed. 15. About ten I preached to a small congregation in the court-house in *Molingar*. We had a far different congregation, both as to number and spirit, in *Longford* court-house in the evening. It was a beautiful sight. Great part of them came again at seven in the morning.

Thursday 16. Heavy rain came on in the evening. Yet the preaching-house at *Kenagh* would not contain the people, Friday 17. I came to my old friends at *Athlone*. But to my surprise, I found them heaps upon heaps. I hastened to hear the contending parties face to face, and was amazed to find how much matter a little fire kindles: Some of the leaders had causelessly taken offence at the Assistant. He called on Mr. R. and warned him against imbibing the same prejudice, telling him "If he did, he must beware of *the consequence*," (meaning thereby the mischief it would do among the people.) Misunderstanding this word, he grew very angry. Others took part with him, and the Society was in an uproar. I talked with him till I was tired; but in vain. One might as well have talked to the North wind. So I gave him up to God, and only endeavoured to quench the flame among the people.

Saturday 18, was a day of peace. Sunday 19. The commanding officer sending to offer me the use of any part of the barracks, I preached at five in the riding-house, a very spacious building, to a multitude of people, on *Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved*. I think
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the word did not fall to the ground. Monday 20. I preached about eleven at *Ballinasloe*, and at six in the church at *Aghrim*. It was much fuller than when I preached here before. And many Papists were there, who, as the minister informed me, had attended the church ever since I was there before. Tuesday 22. About ten I preached in *Eyre court* church, so filled as I suppose it never was before. And many of the hearers seemed to *feel* the word. Thence we went on to *Birr*. How is the scene changed here? One of the dullest places in *Ireland* is become one of the liveliest! But I could not preach abroad in the evening, by reason of the rain. So we made all the room we could in the preaching-house and in the yard; and a most solemn opportunity we had.

Wed. 22. About noon I preached in the beautiful, new court-house at *Tullamore*. Deep attention sat on the rich as well as the poor; as it did likewise at *Coolylough* in the evening. Thursday 23. Being the thanksgiving day for the recovery of his Majesty's health, I preached in the court-house at *Portarlington*, as soon as the church service ended. The congregation was well-drest, but exceeding careless and ill-behaved. At six I preached in the church at *Mountmelick*, exceedingly crowded with hearers of quite another kind. They were all attention, and in the morning filled the preaching-house. Friday 24. The church at *Maryborough* was far larger, and one of the most elegant that I have seen in the kingdom. It was thoroughly filled in the evening, although many of the hearers looked as if they had not been in a church before. But in half an hour they were serious as death. And in the morning, Sat. 25, the lower part of the church was well filled. Surely many will remember that day. In the evening I preached in our house at *Carlow*: where, that I might not overshoot the congregation, I preached on *So teach*

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us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Sunday 26. I preached in the morning, and at five in the evening. The people were very civil and many of them attentive. Monday 17. I reached *Iniscorthy* about noon; and presently after, as it had continued to rain, I preached in the place prepared for me, which was a large, though not very elegant cow-house. However God was there: as likewise in the assembly room at *Wexford*, where I preached to a large congregation in the evening.

Tuesday 28. About noon we reached the ferry, on the West side of which Mrs. *Deaves* was waiting. She pressed me much to go with her in the chaise, and at least to dine at her house, saying, "Mr. *Deaves* was willing to settle the house in any way that I desired!" The same thing he said to me himself: so I hoped all things would end well. In the evening I preached to a numerous congregation, on Mark iii. 35. The God of peace and love was in the midst of us, and seemed to affect the whole assembly.

Wed. 29. We had a large congregation in the morning. On these two days, I met all the Society, (eight or ten excepted) and we greatly confirmed our love to each other. In the evening I preached to a larger congregation than before, on, *I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ*. Afterwards I strongly exhorted them all to rehearse no past grievances, and only to provoke one another to love and good works.

Friday, May 1. We went to *Capperquin*. The rain preventing my preaching abroad, I accepted of a very large room which was offered me in the Barracks. As we went up the street, we had a very numerous retinue, hallooing and shouting with all their might. But the centinel keeping out the mob, we had a quiet congregation within. A popish gentleman inviting me to lodge at his house, I spent a comfortable evening.

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Sunday

Sunday 3. The house was sufficiently filled with people, as well as with the power of God. Monday 4. So it was again at five, when I endeavoured to quench the fire which some had laboured to kindle among the poor, quiet people, about separating from the church. In the evening I preached on Luke viii. 24. and the word was as fire, it pierced to the dividing of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. Tuesday 5. Being not very well in the morning, I desired Mr. Bradford to preach. In the evening I preached on, *Remember from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works.* Many, I believe, are earnestly purposed so to do. May God give them the power! Wed. 6. I preached on that remarkable prophesy, Gen. ix. 27. which is so eminently fulfilled at this day, wherein God does "Seize the servile progeny of Ham." Thursday 7. I went to *Bandon* and finished the life of *Baron Trenck*: the strangest I ever read. Was there ever such a fiend incarnate as the late King of *Prussia*? To inflict such unheard of torments for so many years, for no fault! Good it had been for him, if he had never been born! Yet what a wretch was *Trenck* himself! He made not the least scruple of adultery and murder! And does not appear to have a jot more religion than an inhabitant of *Otaheite*! I think therefore this is a most dangerous book, I wish none that cares for his soul would read a page of it.

In the evening I preached in the new preaching-house, twice or thrice as large as the old one. It was well filled both this evening and the next. But I did not find the same life in this people as in those at *Cork*. But God is able to cause all grace to abound here also. Sat. 9. I returned to *Cork*, and earnestly enforced, *Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.*

Sunday 10. After preaching I administered the Lord's Supper to about four hundred and fifty communicants. I was enabled to speak with
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power in the evening, to more than the house could contain, and afterwards to the Society. May God write it on all their hearts. I am now clear of their blood.

Monday 11. At half an hour after two we reached *Kilfinnan*, and at six I preached on, *One thing is needful*. A few seemed to understand what I meant. As also at five in the morning, when I expounded, *There is neither work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave whither thou goest*. Tuesday 12. I felt myself a good deal out of order: however I pushed on to *Limerick*, where the Rev. Mr. *Ingram*, (one of the Chaplains of the cathedral) gladly received me. So did Mrs. *Ingram* and all the lovely family, where I wanted nothing which the kingdom could afford. At six the house would not contain the congregation. I preached on, *There is one God*. And it seemed as if all under the roof, were sensible of his presence.

Wed 13. I was not well able to preach in the morning. So Mr. *Bradford* took my place. But about eleven I preached myself at *Pallas*, about twelve miles from *Limerick*. All the remains of the *Palatine* families came hither from *Balligarane*, *Court Matris* and *Raeal*, in all which places an uncommon flame has lately broke out, such as was never seen before. Many in every place have been deeply convinced, many converted to God, and some perfected in love. Some Societies are doubled in number, some increased six or even ten-fold. All the neighbouring gentry were likewise gathered together. So that no house could contain them, but I was obliged to stand abroad. The people, as it were, swallowed every word, and great was our rejoicing in the Lord.

Thursday 14. I preached in the morning on Rev. ii. 4, 5. in the evening on Luke iv. 18. All the congregation were, (for the present) much affected: with many, I trust, the impression will continue.

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Friday

Friday 15. We set out at five, and between three and four reached *Castleboy*. In the evening I preached at *Killechrist*, to so large a congregation, that I was obliged to preach abroad, though it rained all the time. As I had not been well for some days, this did me no good; but I held up till Sat. 16. when we came to *Ballinrobe*, and then gave up and let another preach. After a very uneasy night, on Sunday 17. I went on to *Castlebar*, and finding myself much better, preached in the evening to a lovely congregation. But I was obliged to let Mr. *Bradford* preach in the morning, on Monday 18. Being stronger in the evening I preached again, and met the earnest Society increasing both in number and grace. Tuesday 19. Retiring to a friend's house about a mile from the town, I took a full account of the late wonderful affair of Mr. F——d.

Mr. *George Robert F——d*, at his first settling near *Castlebar* about the year 1776, made himself very popular: but meantime his pride was excessive, affirming that being the head of the *Desmond* family, he was the premier nobleman of *Ireland*. Therefore he expected that all the country should submit to him: hence he fell into disputes with his father, and by turns with his brother, and kept his neighbours in perpetual alarm. In 1779, when volunteering began, he raised a company, which was wholly subject to him. Soon after he engaged *Patrick Randal M'Donald*, a relation, as a captain in his company. But not long after a dispute arose between them, relative to the driving of some cattle. Mr. *M'D.* being informed that Mr. *F.* intended violence to him, placed some men near his own house, and ordered them, if he approached the house to fire. Mr. *F.* approaching, one of them did fire, which killed his horse and wounded him in the knee and leg. On this he prosecuted Mr. *M'D.* at the following assizes: but after a full hearing he was acquitted.

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Another matter of contention soon ensued. Mr. M'D. being an attorney, was employed against Mr. F. and carried the suit. This inflamed Mr. F. beyond measure, of which Mr. M'D. was frequently informed. This continued however to the close of the year 1785. When Mr. M'D. being at *Castlebar* one night, a blunderbuss charged with eight or nine bullets and slugs, was discharged through the window of the room where he used to sit. Immediately after Christmas, the witness, Mr. R. G. was sitting in Mr. M's. cellar bottling some wine, when he heard a very uncommon sound of a musquet, and a loud shriek following it. Going out, the first thing he saw was Mr. M'D. wounded in the leg. On his cry, three men ran out of the little house of Mr. F. whence the gun had been fired from a hole through the wall, which had been made on purpose.

He then took a lodging in *Castlebar*. But on the 20th of Feb. 1786, accompanied by Mr. G. and Mr. H. Mr. M'D. went to his house in the country. They had been but a while there, when they found it surrounded by many armed men: on which Mr. M'D. and his friends made their escape to a neighbouring village. Meantime the men broke into his house and not finding him, broke into several houses. At length they came to the house where he was, fired several balls through the doors and windows. Then they broke in and made *M'Donald*, *Gallagher*, and *Hipson* prisoners, and one *Fulton* said he had a warrant against them. They desired he would bring them before *Sir Neal O'Donnell*, a magistrate, then within five miles. But instead of this, they were tied and dragged to *P's* house in *Turlogh*, where they continued all night.

Feb. 21. About six they were marched out with a large company, under pretence of carrying them before a magistrate. *Gallagher* and *Hipson* were tied together, *M'Donald* being suffered to ride, because of his wound, a ruffian holding his bridle.

bridle. When they got about half a mile from *Turlogh*, a shot was fired from the rear, which wounded one of the ruffians, *F——d* contriving it so, that they might cry a rescue, on hearing of which they were ordered instantly to dispatch the prisoners. Immediately several shot were fired at the prisoners. *Hipson* was shot dead, and *Gallagher* wounded. *M'Donnald* had both his arms broke : but his horse took fright and broke from the ruffian. *Gallagher* had crept a little way, but they soon found him. Some were for dispatching him instantly, but others moved to carry him to Mr. *F——d's*. At his house he was kept prisoner all the night.

Next day, the news coming to *Castlebar*, Mr. *Ellison* the magistrate went up with a large party of the army to *Turlogh*. They rushed in, but after searching all the house, could not find *F*. Till two young men went into a room, where was a large trunk ; on touching the hasp of which, he jumped up like a harlequin, fell upon his knees, and begged " they would not kill him." He was then carried out and committed to *Castlebar* gaol, where he remained, till the June following. He was found guilty on June 6, and executed the 12th.

After drinking a bottle of port, he went out of prison, with the air of one going to a ball. He gave a spring off the ladder, which snapt the rope in two : he fell down, but instantly leaped up. All his courage was gone, and none could do more penitent.

Wed. 20. We set out between three and four, and in twelve hours reached *Sligo*. I never before saw such a congregation in *Sligo*, so numerous and so serious. Does there yet another day of vilitation appear, even for this desolate place.

Thursday 21. I was constrained by the earnestness of the people to preach at five, though with much difficulty ; my tongue literally cleaving to the roof of my mouth, through extreme dryness.

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Between nine and ten I was agreeably surprized at *Manor-hamilton*, where I expected little good. But the power of God fell upon the congregation, in a very uncommon degree, so that scarce any one was unaffected. We then hobbled on, thro' wonderful roads, to *Annadale*, where we soon forgot all the labours of the day ; for which the amiable family and the earnest congregation made us large amends.

Friday 22. We went on to *Balliconnel*, where I was nothing glad that the rain drove us into our melancholy house. However we had a comfortable meeting : and I believe many found their desires increased, of *worshipping God in spirit and in truth*. Sat. 23. Between ten and eleven I preached at *Killishandra*, in a pleasant meadow, to a large and attentive congregation, though we had a few light showers of rain. Hence we went through a most beautiful country, equal to any in *England*, to *Kilmore*. After dining at Mr. *Creighton's*, we took a walk to see the remains of the venerable castle where Bishop *Bedell* was confined. It stands in a fine lake, being built exactly round, with walls nine feet thick. It is remarkably high, but has been for many years without inhabitant, one side of it being beaten down by *Oliver Cromwell*. A very large congregation from all parts assembled in the evening : to whom I proclaimed *Jesus Christ, made of God unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption*.

Sunday 24. At seven I preached in the town-hall at *Cavan*, to a very large and well behaved congregation. As I went through *Ballihays*, the poor people stocked round me on every side, and would not be contented, till I came out of the chaise, and spent some time with them in prayer. I expected (being a fair morning) to see a huge congregation at *Clones*. But while we were at church, the rain came on. So all I could do in the evening, was to let Mr. *Bradford* preach to as many as the house would contain, and

and to administer the Lord's Supper to our own Society.

Monday 25. I preached to a multitude of people in the *Old Camp*, on *All things are ready, come ye to the marriage*. The congregation seemed ready to receive every word. I hardly saw since I left *Cork*, such congregations, either for number or seriousness, as is this at *Clones*.

Tuesday 26. The rain did prevent my preaching abroad at *Brpoksborough*, although the congregation was exceeding large. Part of them were sheltered by a spacious turf house, and the rest little regarded the rain; for the Lord watered us in an uncommon degree, with the dew of his blessing. And a more affectionate family than Mr. *McCarty's*, I have not found in the kingdom. This appeared more particularly in the morning, Wed. 27. When we were talking together, one and another fell upon their knees all round me, and most of them burst out into tears and earnest cries, the like of which I have seldom heard, so that we scarce knew how to part. At noon I preached to an unwieldy multitude, in the market house at *Enniskillen*. And I am persuaded not in vain; God was there of a truth. I concluded the day by preaching at *Sidare*, to the old, steady congregation.

Thursday 28. I went on to *Kirlis lodge*, through storms of wind and rain. Yet we had a large congregation of serious people, though divers came from far. In the morning, Friday 29, we spent an hour at Lord *Abercorn's* seat; three miles from *Newtown-Stewart*. The house is elegant in the highest degree both within and without. It stands on a little eminence over a fine river, in a most beautiful park. But the owner has not so much as the beholding it with his eyes, spending all his time in *England*.

Between *Newtown* and *Moyle* we had such rain as I never saw in *Europe* before. In two minutes the horsemen were drenched from head to foot. We dined at the Rector's Dr. *Wilson's*, a man of

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very uncommon learning, particularly in the oriental tongues. At six he took me in his coach to the *Castle* yard, where a numerous congregation soon assembled. Almost as soon as I began to preach, the rain began. Observing the people begin to scatter, I prayed aloud, that God would *slay the bottles of heaven*. He did so: the people returned, and we had a comfortable refreshing shower of heart-reviving love.

Sat. 30. I took a view of the improvements round the house, which are wonderfully pleasant. I have seen few comparable to them in the kingdom, except Dr. *Leslie's* at *Tandragee*.

Sunday 31, being Whitsunday, I preached at *Londonderry* at ten (two hours before the church service began) on, *They were all filled with the Holy Ghost*.

I found an agreeable prospect here: a neat, convenient preaching-house just finished, a Society increasing and well united together, and the whole city prejudiced in favour of it. On Monday and Tuesday the congregations were uncommonly large (though we had rain every day.) Particularly on Tuesday evening, when the hearts of the people seemed to be as melting wax. And likewise at five next morning. I preached on, *Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord*. A good farewell to *Londonderry*.

Wed. June 3. A quarter of an hour after I set out, the axletree of my chaise snapt in two. In about half an hour I procured another chaise, and in three hours reached *New-town Limovaddy*. Finding a congregation was waiting for me in the preaching-house, I went to them without delay. The house was thoroughly filled with deeply attentive hearers, and the power of God was among them.

We went hence through miserable roads to *Colerain*, but the company there made amends for them. We met with a right *English* Society, in spirit, in carriage, and even in dress. But I was concerned to find *John Stephens*, a lovely young preacher,

preacher, in a deep consumption, from which, I judge, nothing can recover him, unless perhaps, a total butter-milk diet. In the evening the large meeting-house which was offered me, was well filled, though the rain was heavy.

Thursday 4. I was fully employed in answering a heap of letters. In the evening, the rain continuing, (as it has done almost every day, since we set out from *Dublin*,) I was glad to accept of the meeting-house again, which was fuller than the evening before. Friday 5. We went a few miles out of our way, to call at a small village, where abundance of people flocked to the church, and appeared to be quite ripe for the gospel. So I preached on *Now is the accepted time : now is the day of salvation*. Thence we hastened on to *Baltimore*, where the rain did us no harm, by driving us into the meeting-house, where a large congregation cheerfully heard the word that is able to save their souls.

Sat. 6. I preached at *Antrim*. And the people behaved exceeding well ; the children as well as the rest. In the evening I was at the new chapel at *Lisburn*, the largest and best finished in the North of Ireland. Sunday 7. It was well filled at nine. We went to church a little before twelve, where the singing was admirably good ; the clerk, who teaches them to sing, having been formerly a leader in our Society. The day continuing stormy, I could not preach in the street, but we were glad to retreat into the linen hall. Here was such a congregation as I have not seen since I came into the kingdom. But some things called gentlemen, were walking to and fro and talking, during the greatest part of the sermon. If these had been *poor men*, probably they would have had common sense ! The meeting of the Society which followed, (at which we permitted many others to be present) was exceeding solemn. The power of God fell upon many. I observed one gentlewoman in particular that wept and trembled exceedingly. I did not wonder therefore, that
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the room was filled at five, and that we had a parting blessing.

Monday 8. We went on to *Belfast*. I had at first thought of preaching in the linen-hall. But the weather being very uncertain, I went to the heads of the large meeting-house, to desire the use of it: which they granted in the most obliging manner. It is the compleatest place of public worship I have ever seen. It is of an oval form: as I judge by my eye, an hundred feet long, and seventy or eighty broad. It is very lofty, and has two rows of large windows, so that it is as light as our new chapel in *London*. And the rows of pillars, with every other part, are so finely proportioned, that it is beautiful in the highest degree.

The house was so crowded both within and without, (and indeed with some of the most respectable persons in the town) that it was with the utmost difficulty I got in: but I then found I went not up without the Lord. Great was my liberty of speech among them: great was our glorying in the Lord: so that I gave notice (contrary to my first design) of my intending to preach there again in the morning. But soon after, the sexton sent me word, "it must not be: for the crowds had damaged the house: and some of them had broke off and carried away the silver which was on the Bible in the pulpit." So I desired one of our preachers to preach in our little house, and left *Belfast* early in the morning.

Tuesday 9. About eight I came once more to *Newtown*, where I had not been for eleven years, and preached at nine to a multitude of people, in the Presbyterian meeting-house. All of them seemed to be not a little affected. God grant the impression may continue! From hence we had a pleasant ride to *Portaferry*, a pretty large sea-port town, and one of the quietest I ever saw. Here likewise I preached in a large meeting-house, to a serious and well-behaved congregation, on *Stand*

ye in the old paths, and many seemed determined to walk therein.

Wed. 10. We had twice or thrice as many people in the morning as our house would have contained. We had then a lovely passage to *Strangford*: but the question was where to preach? I was inclined to preach in the open air, as I did eleven years ago; till the Vicar called upon me, and after a little friendly conversation, asked me, "If I would not preach in the Church?" As we walked together through the street the people gathered from every quarter: so that the Church was over-filled, many being constrained to stand without the door. And greatly was the mighty power of God displayed in the midst of them.

We came to *Downpatrick* before one. In the afternoon we viewed the venerable ruins of the Abbey. Great men have *talked* of re building it for many years: but none moves a hand towards it. At six I preached to a numerous congregation in the Grove, on *How long halt ye between two opinions?* Afterwards I met the Society, now well established, and still increasing both in number and strength. Thursday 11, I preached in *Rathfriland* about noon, and before two set out for *Tandragee*. But in about half an hour, the fore axletree broke. So I walked forward with two of our brethren, which was easier than riding either of their horses. But before we came to *Lough-Brickland*, my strength was so exhausted, I was glad to stop at a little Inn, and send to *Bann-bridge*, about two miles off, for a post-chaise. It came soon after six o'clock, and I set out immediately: I had gone about a mile, when Mrs. *Leslie* met me with her chaise, (who set out as soon as she heard that my chaise was broke down,) and took me with her to *Tandragee*. A multitude of people were waiting, (*twice as many as were in the Green at Downpatrick*;) when finding no want of strength, I earnestly proclaimed, *God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself.* Such

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Such a congregation I have not seen since I came into the kingdom ; neither such a pleasing place, shaded with tall, spreading trees, near which ran a clear river. And all the people listened with deep attention.

Friday 12. I had a day of rest, and in the same delightful Grove, preached on *Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul.* Sat. 13, I had another quiet day, to answer my letters and revise my papers. I think the evening congregation was the largest we have seen in the kingdom, and they all seemed to feel the application of these words, which God applied with uncommon power, *Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*

Sunday 14. I preached to near as large a congregation at nine, on *Rejoice in the Lord ye righteous.* After preaching in the evening I lodged at *Killiman*, and preached at seven in the morning at Mr. *Caulfield's* door. In the evening I preached in the Castle-yard at *Dungannon*, on *There is one God*, with the demonstration of the Spirit. It is a lovely place, and contained a huge congregation. Tuesday 16, I preached in the street, at *Blackwater-town*, on 1 Cor. x. 13. The word sunk deep into many hearts, for the power of God was in the midst of the congregation. In the evening I preached once more to a multitude of people, in Mr. *M'Gough's* avenue : to whom I paid probably the last visit, as he is just tottering over the grave.

Wed. 17. I went on to *Newry*, and preached once more in the Presbyterian Meeting-house, well filled with rich and poor. It was a blessed season : as it was nearly at five in the morning. Thursday 18, about ten I began in the Market-place at *Dundalk*, the congregation was large and exceeding quiet. They were tolerably quiet at *Drogheda* in the evening, and deeply attentive at six in the morning. Friday 19, about eleven I preached in the street at *Swords*, and in the afternoon reached *Dublin*.

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Sunday

Sunday 21. I preached and administered the Lord's-supper: in the conclusion of which "The o'whelming power of grace divine," overshadowed the congregation. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, I visited the Classes now containing a little above a thousand members, after I had excluded about a hundred. Thursday 25, I went on to Mrs. Tighe's, at *Rosanna*, near *Wicklow*, an exceeding pleasant seat, deeply embosomed in woods on every side. In the evening I preached in the great Hall, to about a hundred very genteel persons, I believe most of them felt as well as heard: some, perhaps may bring forth fruit.

Friday 26. After spending a quiet day, I went in the afternoon to *Wicklow*, and preached in the Court-house to a large congregation, civil, though unawakened enough. Yet a few appeared to be deeply attentive; and I hope will seek the Lord while he is near.

Sat. 27. We returned to *Dublin* by the *Glen of the Downs*, much resembling that which lies North above *Keswick-Water*. All this country is remarkably fruitful and pleasant, having in many parts, a fine sea, as well as land prospect.

Sunday 28. In the conclusion of the morning service, we had a remarkable blessing: and the same in the evening: moving the whole congregation as the heart of one man.

This day I enter on my eighty-sixth year. I now find I grow old. 1. My sight is decayed, so that I cannot read a small print, unless in a strong light: 2. My strength is decayed, so that I walk much slower than I did some years since: 3. My memory of names, whether of persons or places is decayed, till I stop a little to recollect them. What I should be afraid of is, if I took thought for the morrow, that my body should weigh down my mind, and create either *stubbornness*, by the decrease of my understanding, or *peevishness*, by the increase of bodily infirmities. But thou shalt answer for me, O Lord my God.

Friday,

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Friday, July 3. Our little Conference began in *Dublin*, and ended Tuesday 7. On this I observe, 1. I never had between forty and fifty such Preachers together in *Ireland* before: all of them, we had reason to hope, alive to God, and earnestly devoted to his service: 2. I never saw such a number of Preachers before, so unanimous in all points, particularly as to leaving the Church, which none of them had the least thought of. It is no wonder, that there has been this year, so large an increase of the Society.

Sunday 5. I desired as many as chose it of our Society to go to *St. Patrick's* being the first Sunday in the month. The Dean preached a serious, useful sermon; and we had such a company of communicants, as I suppose, had scarce been seen there together, for above a hundred years. Our house would not contain those that came in the evening: many of whom being little awakened, I preached on *It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.* On Monday and Tuesday we settled the rest of our business, and on Wednesday morning we parted in the same love that we met.

I had much satisfaction in this Conference. In conversing with between forty and fifty travelling Preachers, I found such a body of men as I hardly believed could have been found together in *Ireland*: men of so sound experience, so deep piety, and so strong understanding. I am convinced they are no way inferior to the English Conference, except it be in number.

Friday 10. We observed as a day of fasting and prayer, chiefly for the increase of the work of God. This was concluded with a very solemn watch-night, wherein the hearts of many were greatly comforted.

Sunday 12. At seven, I preached in *Martborough-street*, where (though it rained all the morning) we had a full congregation of serious people. We met at the New Room at half past nine. And truly God was with us. We had

nothing

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never

never so many communicants before, but as my day, so was my strength. About two we left *Dublin*; and hastened down to the ship, the *Princess Royal of Parkgate*, the neatest and most elegant Packet I ever saw. But the wind failing, we did not get out of the Bay, till about twelve. We had exceeding agreeable company; and I slept as well as if I had been in my own bed. Monday 13. The sea being smooth, I shut myself up in my chaise, and read over the life of the famous Mr. George F—, one of the most extraordinary men (if we may call him a man) that has lived for many centuries. I never heard before, of so cool, deliberate, relentless a murderer! And yet from the breaking of the rope at his execution, which gave him two hours of vehement prayer, there is room to hope, he found mercy at last.

In the evening we sang a hymn upon deck, which soon drew all the company about us. I then, without any delay began preaching on, *It is appointed to men once to die*. I believe all were a little affected for the present. We were then constrained to slacken sail and to lie by for some hours, not having water to pass the bar: however we landed between four and five in the morning, Tuesday 14. And after resting an hour I went to *Chester*: I lodged at T. Brisco's, a lovely family indeed, just such another as Miss B's, at *Kein-flam*. The children indeed are not quite so gentle, but full as much awakened: and I think, the most loving I ever saw. The house was thoroughly filled in the evening (it being the fair time) as well as the following. Thursday 16. When I took my leave of the family, they were all in tears. About noon I preached to a large and much affected congregation at *Northwich*. A flame is lately broke out, such as never was seen here before. In the evening I preached at *Manchester*. Sat. 18. I consulted Dr. *Easton*, finding my thirst and fever much increased. His medicine immediately took place; and I was so much better

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better in the morning; Sunday 19, that I preached
ed; and with Dr. Coke's assistance, administered the
sacrament to eleven or twelve hundred communica-
dants. I preached again in the evening; but it
was too much for me, and brought back my fever.
Monday 20. I went on to *Halifax*, where in the
evening I preached to a noble congregation and
afterwards spent near another hour, in exhorting
the Society. Tuesday 21. I hid myself at *Otley*
and prepared for the Conference. Friday 24. I
preached to a lovely congregation, on Eph. iv. 24.
Sat. 25, I preached at *Dewsbury*, in the evening
on Rev. xiv. 1-4. It rained all the time, I and
several more people were wet to the skin. I
lodged in *Joseph Taylor's* house at *Gommersal*, who
labours for peace, and would fain reconcile *Christ*
and *Belial*.

In this journey I employed some part of my
leisure time, in reading Mr. *Foster's* voyage round
the world. In many parts of this, one would
think he was almost persuaded to be a christian.
But how is it then that he says Vol. I. p. 186.
"We listened to our boat's crew, who recited a
number of dull stories, intermixt with hearty curses,
oaths, and indecent expressions, &c. (obscenity)
but seldom without real humour." Now, what
need of mentioning these hearty curses and oaths,
with such profound indifference, if it were not to
screen himself from the imputation of believing
the Bible?

Sunday 26. I preached at noon in *Birstal*-
house to as lively a congregation as ever was seen
there, and at five preached on the *Education of*
children.

Monday 27. Being not well able to preach in
the morning, through the heat and dryness of my
mouth, in the evening I preached on 1 Tim. vi.
20. Tuesday 28, the Conference began, about
a hundred Preachers were present, and never was
our Master more eminently present with us.
The case of separation from the Church was
largely considered, and we were all unanimous

against it. August 1. We considered the case of *Densbury* house, which the self-erected trustees have robbed us off. The point they contended for was this, That they should have a right of rejecting any Preachers they disapproved of. But this, we saw, would destroy itinerancy. So they chose *J. Atley* for a Preacher, who adopted *W. E.* for his curate. Nothing remained but to build another preaching-house, toward which we subscribed two hundred and six pounds on the spot.

Sunday 2. Knowing the church would not contain half of our congregation added to its own, we began at our room, at half an hour past nine. After preaching, with the assistance of three other clergymen, I administered the sacrament to fifteen or sixteen hundred persons, I hope, all desirous to be inward Christians. Tuesday 4. Having before preached to the people at large, I now spoke directly to the Preachers on, *If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God*: and I am persuaded, God applied his word to many of their hearts.

Wed. 5. About noon we left *Leeds*; and that evening went to *Newark*, about seventy miles.

Thursday 6. We set out early, and between four and five reached *Hinxworth*. I was now pretty well inclined to rest; but a congregation soon getting together, I would not disappoint them, but preached on, *We love him because he first loved us*. And after preaching and travelling fourscore miles, I was no more tired than when I set out in the morning.

Friday 7. We reached *London* between one and two, and found great reason to praise the gracious Power, which had preserved us by sea and by land, in all known and unknown dangers, unto the present hour.

Sunday 9. The New Chapel was sufficiently crowded, both in the morning and at four in the afternoon. At seven we set out, and about noon

on Monday 10, reached *Bristol*. Finding all things

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things here in a flourishing state, I set out for the West, early on Tuesday morning, and had an exceeding pleasant journey to Taunton: where we had a full and serious congregation in the evening. Wednesday 12. I had no thought of preaching at Collumpton, though we were to pass through it. But I yielded to importunity, and preached at one, to a numerous audience. Thence we went on to Exeter, where the people were in high expectation of seeing the king, who appointed to be there the next day: however a pretty large congregation assembled; to whom I preached at six o'clock. We set out at three, on Thursday 13, and reached Plymouth between one and two in the afternoon. I preached to a large audience in the evening: and although the day was extremely hot, yet I found myself better yesterday and to day, than I have been for some months.

Friday 14. In the afternoon I went on to the Dock, having previously determined not to say or hear any thing of their late senseless quarrel, wherein I could not but blame both sides, and knew not which to blame most. So I spent this and the next day in peace and answered all my letters. Sunday 16. In the morning, I believe, we had not less than six hundred communicants: but they were all admirably well-behaved as if they indeed discerned the Lord's body. But when I preached in the afternoon, the house would not hold half the congregation. I chose the space adjoining the South side of the house, capable of containing some thousands of people. Besides some hundreds sat on the ridge of the rock which ran along at my left hand. I preached on part of the gospel for the day, *He beheld the city and wept over it.* And it seemed as if every one felt

His heart is made of tenderness;

His bowels melt with love."

Monday

Monday 17, Setting out at three we easily reached our friends at *St. Austle* by dinner time. But I knew not where to preach, the street being so dirty, and the Preaching-house so small. At length we determined to squeeze as many as we could into the Preaching-house; and truly God was there. Tuesday 18, we went on to *Truro*, where I had appointed to preach at twelve o'clock. But here an unforeseen hindrance occurred. I could not get through the main street to our Preaching-house. It was quite blocked up with soldiers to the East, and numberless Tinnors to the West, a huge multitude of whom being nearly starved, were come to beg, or demand an increase of their wages, without which they could not live. So we were obliged to retire to the other end of the town, where I preached under the Coinage-hall, to twice as many people, rich and poor, as the Preaching-house would have contained. And many of them would not have come thither at all. How wise are all the ways of God!

In the afternoon, as we could not pass by the common road, we procured leave to drive round by some fields, and got to *Falmouth* in good time. When I was here, about forty years ago, I was taken prisoner by an immense mob, gaping and roaring like lions. But how is the tide turned, high and low now lined the street from one end of the town to the other out of stark love and kindness, as if the King were going by. In the evening I preached on the smooth top of the hill, at a small distance from the sea to the largest congregation I have ever seen in *Cornwall*, except in or near *Redruth*. And such a time I have not known since I returned from *Ireland*. God moved wonderfully on the hearts of the people, who all seemed to know the day of their visitation.

Wed. 19. I preached at noon in the high-street at *Helfton*, to the largest and most serious congregation, which I ever remember to have seen there.

Thursday 20, I went on to *St. Just*, and preached

in

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in the evening to a lovely congregation, many of whom have not left their first love. Friday 21. About eleven I preached at *Newlin*, and in the evening at *Penzance*. At both places I was obliged to preach abroad. Sat. 22. I crossed over to *Redruth*, and at six preached to a huge multitude, as usual, from the steps of the market-house. The word seemed to sink deep into every heart. I know not that ever I spent such a week in *Cornwall* before.

Sunday 23. I preached there again in the morning, and in the evening at the Amphitheatre: I suppose, for the last time; for my voice cannot now command the still increasing multitude. It was supposed they were now more than five and twenty thousand. I think it scarce possible that all should hear.

Monday 24. Calling at *Marazion*, in my way to *Penzance*, where I had promised to preach once more, the house was filled in a few minutes, so that I could not refrain from preaching a short sermon. And God was there of a truth. We had a rainy afternoon, so I was obliged to preach in the new *Preaching-house*, considerably the largest, and in many respects far the best in *Cornwall*.

Tuesday 25. I went to *St. Ives*, and preached as usual, on one side of the market-place. Well nigh all the town attended, and with all possible seriousness. Surely forty years labour has not been in vain here.

Wed. 26. I returned to *Redruth*, and applied to the great congregation, *God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself*. I then met the Society, and explained at large, the rise and nature of Methodism. I still aver, I have never read or heard of, either in ancient or modern history, any other Church which builds on so broad a foundation as the Methodists do; which requires of its members no conformity either in opinions or modes of worship, but barely this one thing, to fear God and work righteousness.

Thursday

Thursday 27. We set out early and reached *Truro* soon after five. I preached at six to a house full of serious people, on *Awake thou that sleepest*. The congregation seemed to be awake. Thence we hastened forward to *Port Isaac*. I preached in the evening in an open part of the town, to almost all the inhabitants of it. How changed, when he that invited me, durst not take me in, for fear his house should be pulled down!

Friday 28. I preached at nine in our new house at *Camelford*, thoroughly filled, though at a short warning: and at six in the evening, in the new house at *Lancaster*, still too small for the congregation, who seemed exceeding lively. So there is a fair prospect in *Cornwall*, from *Lancaster* to the *Land's End*. Sat. 29. Going through *Tavistock*, a poor man asked me to preach. I began in about a quarter of an hour, the preaching-house being filled directly: but with so poor a congregation as I have not seen before, for twice seven years. In the evening I preached at *Plymouth-dock*, to a very different congregation, but equally serious.

Sunday 30. Our service began at ten. The rain prevented the chapel being too much crowded. In the evening I preached at *Plymouth*, on (the words in the first lesson) *How long shall ye between two opinions?* It was an awful season. Afterwards I spent a comfortable evening with a few of our serious brethren. The jars both here and at the *Dock* seem now to be over, and the contending parties are willing to live in peace.

Monday 31. We set out at three, in a lovely morning, and reached *Exeter* between twelve and one. Here the scene was much changed: many of the people were scattered, and the rest faint and dead enough. The Preaching-house was swiftly going to ruin, the rain running through the roof into the main. And five or six ungodly tenants living in the house, were noisy enough, having none to control them. We called earnestly upon God

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God to arise, and maintain his own cause. He did so in the evening congregation, (which was much larger than usual) while I strongly enforced the parable of the sower, and the dread of God seemed to rest on the whole congregation.

- Tuesday, Sept. 1. We went through a delightful country to *Tiverton*. In the evening, the Independent minister, offering the use of his meeting-house, far larger than ours, I willingly accepted his offer. The congregation was far the largest I have seen in *Tiverton* for many years. I preached on Mark iii. 25. and it seemed all had ears to hear.

Wed. 2. I preached at *Halberton*. I spoke here before in the open air, but the rain prevented it now. So as many as could conveniently, got into the house. When we set out one of my horses was quite lame, so that it was with great difficulty I could get to *Taunton*. In the evening we had such a congregation, as I suppose, was never in that house before. Surely the ancient work will some time revive, and the prayers of that blessed man, *Joseph Alleyne*, be answered.

Thursday 3. Being obliged to take post horses at *Taunton*, we went on to *Castle Cary*. Here we found a little company of lively Christians. We found such another, Friday, 4. at *Ditchet*. But the rain drove us into the house: where, as many as could squeeze in, seemed to be much affected. In the evening I preached at *Shepton*, where the flame kindled some time since, is not yet extinguished. The next day we went on to *Bristol*.

Sunday 6. I read prayers, preached, and administered the Sacrament to many hundred communicants. I preached in the evening as usual; and spent a little more time with the Society than I commonly do. But it was more than I could well do. Yet in four and twenty hours I was as well as usual. The Fair brought abundance of strangers to the preaching on Monday, Tuesday, and

and Wednesday. Thursday 10. I went over to *Thornbury*, where we preached near fifty years, and hardly saw any fruit. But whom can we despair of? Now at length it seems that God's time is come. A few men of substance in the town, have built a neat and commodious Preaching-house. It was filled within and without with serious hearers. And they did not hear in vain.

Friday 11. I went over to *Kingswood*: sweet recess! Where every thing is now just as I wish. But "Man was not born in shades to dwell." Let us work now. We shall rest by and by. Sat. 12. I spent some time with the children; all of whom behaved well: several much awakened, and a few rejoicing in the favour of God.

Sunday 13. As Mr. *Baddiley* assisted me in the morning, I took the opportunity of preaching at *Kingswood* in the afternoon: and abroad in the evening, and was abundantly better in the evening than in the morning. Monday 14, I spent an agreeable hour with Mr. *Ireland*, and Mr. *Romaine*, at *Brislington*. I could willingly spend some time here. But I have none to spare. Tuesday 15. In the evening I preached at *Pensford*, to an uncommon congregation, and with an uncommon blessing. Wed 16, I went on to *Midsummer Norton*. I never saw the church so full before. I preached on that verse in one of the Psalms for the day, *Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it*: many, I believe, found the promise true. In the evening I preached to our honest, earnest Colliers, at *Coleford*: most of whom attended again at five in the morning. Thursday 17. I preached at *Frome*, to a far larger audience, and with much of the presence of God. Friday 18. At noon I preached at *Trowbridge* in an open place, to a multitude of people: and in the evening to our old steady congregation at *Bradford*: but many of them are gone into a better world. Scarce any of the rich and honourable are left. But it is enough that the gospel is preached to the

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the poor. Sat. 19. At *Bath* the scene is changed again. Here we have the rich and honourable in abundance. And yet abundance of them came even in a stormy night, and seemed as attentive as colliers.

Sunday 20. I know not that ever I had so large a number of communicants before ; after I had applied strongly, *Neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.* In the afternoon I applied full as strongly, *God forbid I should glory, &c.* and in the evening returned to *Bristol*.

Monday 21. and the three following days, I visited the classes at *Bristol*. Friday 25. I spent an hour at *Clarchill* with Mr. *Henderson*, I believe the best physician for lunatics in *England*. But he could not save the life of his only son ! Who was probably taken, to bring his father to God !

Sunday 27. I preached at the New Room morning and evening, and in the afternoon at *Temple church*. But it was full as much as I could do. I doubt I must not hereafter attempt to preach more than twice a day. Monday 28. I strongly enforced the caution of *St. Paul*, *Be not conformed to this world.* But who can enforce it enough ? For what destruction does this conformity bring upon the children of God ! Tuesday 29. Being much importuned I went to *Churchill*, about twelve miles West of *Bristol*. The rain was heavy ; yet many of the poor people made their way through it : so that the church (they said) has scarce ever been so filled before. After the service many stayed in the church, because of the rain. So I spent some time with them in singing and prayer, and our hearts were much comforted together.

October 1. I went over to *Bath*, and preached once more to a very large congregation, on *1 Pet. i. 14.* Friday 2. We had a solemn watch-night at *Kingswood* : and most of the people stayed to the end. Sunday 4. I purposed preach-

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ing abroad once more in the afternoon ; but just before five the rain began. So I could only enforce in the room those solemn words, in the first lesson for the day, *Turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways, &c.*

Monday 5. We set out at four, and reached Mr. *Whitchurch's* at *Sarum* before dinner. In the evening the house was crowded extremely, and the voice of God was heard among them : especially in the meeting of the Society, to whom I delivered my own soul once for all. Tuesday 6. About nine I spoke full as plain at *Winchester*, I think, to the largest congregation I have seen there, and it seemed the most serious, on that awful subject, Mark ix. 14. The audience at *Portsmouth Common* in the evening were of another kind : to whom therefore I spake in quite another manner, from Eph. iii. 14, &c. Wed 7. About one I preached to another very serious congregation in the town, whom I exhorted to *leave the first principles, and go on to perfection*. Thursday 8. I set out early, and in the afternoon we were brought to *London*.

I am now as well, by the good Providence of God, as I am likely to be while I live : my sight is so decayed, that I cannot well read by candle-light, but I can write as well as ever. And my strength is much lessened, so that I cannot easily preach above twice a day. But I bless God, my memory is not much decayed, and my understanding is as clear as it has been these fifty years.

Sunday 11. I preached at *West-street* morning and afternoon, and then buried the remains of *Dorothy Hundlebee*, who after an exemplary life, went to God in the full triumph of faith. Tuesday 13. I preached partly upon the subject at the New Chapel, and strongly exhorted the congregation, to be followers of her as she was of Christ. In the evening I went in the mail coach, to *Barton Mills*, and thence in a chaise to *Lynn*.

Wed.

Wed. 14. The heavy rain prevented tender people from attending in the evening. Sunday 25. In the morning I preached at *West-street*; on Matt. xxii. 11. *He saw a man not having on a wedding garment*; and shewed 1. That this has no manner of respect, either to the Lord's Supper; or righteousness of Christ, but that it means neither more nor less than holiness. At three I preached to a crowded audience at *Allhallows* church on Matt. vi. 8. At both places I believe God strongly applied his word to many hearts.

Monday 26. I set out early, dined at *Wallingford*, (about fifty miles from the New Chapel) and preached in the evening to far more people than the preaching-house could contain. It was a day of God's power, and I believe most of the stout-hearted trembled at his word.

Tuesday 27. I went on to *Witney*. Here I found a lively people, many of whom were hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

Thursday 29. I returned to *Oxford*, and as notice had been given, though without my knowledge, of my preaching at noon, I did so, on *There is one God*, to a very serious congregation. But in the evening such a multitude of people prest in, that they hindered one another from hearing. I know not when we have had so noisy a congregation, so that by their eagerness to hear, they defeated their own purpose.

Friday 30. In my way to *Wycombe*, I spent an hour at Mr. *Smith's* in *Cudsdem*. He has ten children from eighteen to a year or two old; but all under government: so that I met the very picture of my father's family. What a wretched steward was he, who influenced Lord *H—* to put away such a tenant! In the evening the house at *High Wycombe*, though full, was still as night. Sat. 31. We came safe and well to *London*.

Sunday, Nov. 1. All saint's day, a day that I peculiarly love, I preached on Rev. vii. 1. and we rejoiced with solemn joy. Monday 2. Miss H. met me at *Hatfield*, and took me on to *Hinxworth*. I never saw that preaching-house so full as it was this evening. And the people now begin not only to understand, but to relish what they hear. Tuesday 3. We went over to *Wrestlingworth*, where likewise the church was fuller than ever before. I spoke exceeding closely the next evening at *Hinxworth*, which the people are now able to bear. And at length that excellent woman that has so tenderly cared for them, sees some fruit of her labour.

Monday 9. I returned to *London*, and the four following days I employed in visiting the Classes. Sunday 15. We had (as usual) a large congregation, and a solemn opportunity at *Spitalfields*: and another at *Shoreditch* church, where I preached a charity-sermon, after the prayers had been read, in such a manner as I never heard before. At five I preached at the New Chapel and met the Society: but it was too much for me.

Monday 16. After an intermission of many weeks, through the dryness of my mouth, I resolved to try if I could not preach at five in the morning, and did so with not much difficulty. And now I hope to hold on a little longer. Wed. 18. I found much life in the Society at *Brentford*. So little cause have we to despair of any people, though for the present, ever so dead! Thursday 19. I preached to a large congregation at *Lambeth*. On Friday and Saturday I answered my letters.

Sunday 22. We had large congregations and a comfortable opportunity both morning and evening at *West-street* chapel. Monday 23. I set out for *Northamptonshire*, and in the evening preached at *Whittlebury*. But the house would ill contain the congregation, who were all serious as death. So they were the next evening.

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Wed. 25. The dissenting minister at *Fowcester*, offering me the use of his meeting-house, it was well filled, and I believe our Lord was in the midst. Thence we went on to *Northampton*, where I spent two evenings with very great satisfaction. Although the great man who was so affected at *Bath* last year, was (as I expected he would) ashamed to see me. Friday 27. We had a pleasant journey to *London*.

Sunday 29. I preached at the New Chapel in the morning, on *Love is the fulfilling of the law*, and in the evening, on *Owe no man any thing, but to love one another*, and each time God was eminently present. Monday 30. I went to *Deptford* and found the Society in peace, but nearly at one stay. I endeavoured to stir up both them and the congregation in the evening, *to go on to perfection*. Tuesday, Dec. 1. I called on Mr. *Dornford*, and found he kept his bed, being ill of a stubborn ague. But it came no more. At noon I preached in the new preaching-house at *Mitcham*, and examined the little earnest Society, almost all rejoicing in the love of God. I then retired to *Balam*.

Here I had leisure on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, to consider thoroughly the account of the *Pelew Islands*. It is ingenious, but I esteem it a dangerous book, which I cannot believe, if I believe the Bible. For the direct tendency of it is to shew that the Bible is quite needless: since if men may be as virtuous without revelation as with it, then it is quite superfluous.

"But what do you think of Prince *Lee Boo*?" I think he was a good natured, sensible young man, who came to *England* with Captain *Wilson*, and had learnt his lesson well, but was just as much a Prince, as *Tom Chacti* was a King.

Monday 7. I went to *Chatham* and preached as usual, to far more than the house could contain. And it is no wonder considering that the spirit and behaviour of the people confirm the doctrine they hear. Tuesday 8. We took a walk in the

dock yard. In the evening I preached in the elegant house at *Brumpton*. But it is already far too small. The people flock in on every side, to breathe peacefully the Gospel.

Thursday 10. I returned to *London* and preached at the New Chapel.

Sunday 13. Feeling much concern for poor backsliders I endeavoured to explain, and apply the concluding words of the parable of the Prodigal Son: *This thy brother was dead and is alive again: He was lost and is found.* And in the evening those of *Hosea viii.*

Monday 14. I went to *Canterbury* and preached in the evening, on, *There is one God*. The house would in no wise contain the congregation, in which were several clergymen. It pleased God to give me uncommon liberty of spirit, as also at *Dover* the next evening, where the new house, large as it is, was far too small, so that many could not get in. Wed. 16. Being quite hoarse, I could neither sing nor speak; however I determined to shew myself, at least, where I had appointed to preach. Coming to *Sandwich* about noon, and finding the congregation was waiting, I trusted in God and began to speak: the more I spoke, the more my voice was strengthened, so that in a few minutes I think all could hear. And many, I believe, took knowledge that what they heard was not the word of man, but of God.

I preached again at *Margate* in the evening, till my voice was near as clear as before I began. The Spirit of God was with us of a truth.

Thursday 17. I returned to *Canterbury*, and spent half an hour with my old friend Mr. E. Perronet, the last of the six sons, and nearly worn out, and just tottering over the grave. In the evening we had another numerous congregation, and all deeply serious. Friday 18. We returned to *London*.

Monday 21. I went to *Sevenoaks*, where the work of God has been at a stand for many years.

It

It was a rainy night, notwithstanding which the chapel was crowded from end to end: God seemed to rest in an uncommon degree, upon the whole congregation. I was still more surprized to see the house filled in a very dark rainy morning, a sight which has not been for many years. Surely God is about to give this poor dead people yet another gracious visitation.

Friday 25. Christmas-day, we began the service in the New Chapel at four o'clock as usual, where I preached again in the evening; after having officiated in *West-street* at the common hour. Sat. 26. We had a very uncommon congregation in the evening, with a very uncommon blessing. Sunday 27. I preached in St. Luke's, our Parish Church, in the afternoon to a very numerous congregation, on *The Spirit, and the Bride say come*. So are the tables turned, that I have now more invitations to preach in Churches than I can accept of.

Monday 28. I retired to *Peckham* and at leisure hours read part of a very pretty trifle, the *Life of Mrs. Bellamy*. Surely never did any since *John Dryden*, study more, "To make vice pleasing, and damnation shine," than this lively and elegant writer. She has a fine imagination, a strong understanding, an easy style improved by much reading, a fine, benevolent temper, and every qualification that could consist with a total ignorance of God. But God was not in all her thoughts. Abundance of anecdotes she inserts, which may be true or false. One of them concerning Mr. *Garrick*, is curious. She says, "When he was taking ship for *England*, a Lady presented him with a parcel, which she desired him not to open till he was at sea. When he did, he found *Wesley's Hymns*, which he immediately threw over-board." I cannot believe it. I think Mr. G. had more sense. He knew my brother well. And he knew him to be not only far superior in learning, but in Poetry, to Mr. *Thompson*, and all his theatrical writers put together:

ther : none of them can equal him, either in strong nervous sense, or purity and elegance of language.

In the evening I preached to a crowded congregation, some of whom seemed a good deal affected. Thursday 31. I preached at the New Chapel, but to avoid the cramp went to bed at ten o'clock. I was well served. I know not that I ever before felt so much of it in one night.

Friday, January 1, 1790. I am now an old man, decayed from head to foot. My eyes are dim : my right hand shakes much : my mouth is hot and dry every morning. I have a lingering fever almost every day. My motion is weak and slow. However, blessed be God, I do not slack my labour. I can preach and write still.

Sat. 2. I preached at *Snowfields*, to the largest congregation I have seen there this year, on, *I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ*. Sunday 3. I suppose near two thousand met at the New Chapel, to renew their Covenant with God ! A scriptural means of grace, which is now almost every where forgotten, except among the Methodists.

Tuesday 5. I paid a visit to my old friend *Mark Davis*, and in the evening I preached to a small audience at *Laytonstone*. Wed. 6, I preached to a larger and more awakened congregation at *Stratford*. Tuesday 12. I retired to *Highbury-place* to answer my letters. Sunday 17, I buried *Mrs. Dornford*, (a good woman,) and preached her funeral sermon. In the afternoon I preached in *Great St. Helen's*, to a large congregation. It is, I believe, fifty years since I preached there before. What has God wrought since that time !

Thursday 21. I paid a visit to an eminent Sister, of whom every one despaired. She resolved to set out once more. May God uphold her with his right-hand. Sunday 24, we had a Love-feast for all the Society, at which many spoke their experience

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perience with much simplicity. Monday 25. I went to *Dorking*, and laboured to awaken a harmless, honest, drowsy people, who for many years have seemed to stand stock still, neither increasing nor decreasing.

Friday 29. We had our general Quarterly-meeting, whereby it appeared, that the Society received and expended about 3,000*l.* a year. But our expence still exceeded our income. Sat. 30, I began meeting the Classes, which took up this day and all the next week.

Sunday, February 7. I preached the funeral sermon of that saint of God, *Robert Windsor*, many years a burning and a shining light. He was born a few months after me : was a prudent, serious, diligent man, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. He seemed on the brink of death some months ago : but was suddenly raised up again, praised God without ceasing, a few days, and then laid down and died.

Wed. 10. We found much of the presence of God in the chapel at *Brentford*, where the congregation was exceeding large. So it was the next evening at *Lambeth*, though perhaps not so much alive. Sat. 13. The meeting of the penitents in the evening was exceeding solemn : as indeed it generally is. Sunday 14. I preached a sermon to the children at *West-street* chapel. They flocked together from every quarter. And truly God was in the midst of them, applying those words, *Come, ye little children, hearken unto me, and I will teach you the fear of the Lord.*

Tuesday 16. I retired to *Balam* for a few days, in order to finish my sermons, and put all my little things in order. Thursday 18. I preached once more at poor *Wandsworth*. The house was more crowded than it has been for several years. And I could not but hope that God will once more build up the waste places. Friday 19. I preached to a large audience at *Chelsea*, and examined the little Society, who do not decrease
but

but rather grow in grace, and strengthen each other's hands.

Sunday 21. I preached to the children at the New Chapel, and believe not in vain. Monday 22. We had a comfortable opportunity at *West-street*, and another on Tuesday evening at the New Chapel, where we had also a solemn meeting of the leaders. I submitted to importunity, and once more sat for my picture. I could scarce believe myself! The picture of one in his eighty-seventh year!

Wed. 24. I preached once more at *Wapping*, to a crowded audience; and the next evening at the New Chapel, thoroughly filled. Friday 26. I preached at *Redriff*, where also there is lately a remarkable revival of the work of God. Sat. 27. I dined at Mr. *Baker's* one of the Sheriffs of *London*, a plain man, who still lives in an inn yard! In the evening I had such a congregation at *Snow-fields*, as has not been seen there before for many years. Afterwards I met the penitents for the last time: they quite filled the room, and God was in the midst of them.

Sunday 28. We have not had such a congregation at the New Chapel, since the renewal of the Covenant; nor such a blessing: the hearts of the people were like melting wax. Most of them were in tears: and I trust they will not soon forget the exhortation which was then given them.

In the afternoon I preached at *West-street* chapel on Eph. v. 1, 2. The chapel would not near contain the congregation: all that could squeeze in seemed much affected. And it was with difficulty I broke through and took chaise for *Brentford*, where I came before six o'clock. The congregation was by far the largest I ever saw here: so that it seems, our labour in this place will not be in vain.

March 1. I left *Brentford* early in the morning, and in the evening preached at *Newbury*. The congregation was large, and most of them attentive,

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tive, but a few were wild as colts untamed. We had no such at *Bath* the following evening, but all were serious as death. Indeed the work of God seems to flourish here, deepening as well as widening. Wed. 3. I took a view of the new buildings. There are at present none like them in *England*. They have not only added a second crescent with two beautiful rows of houses near *Ludstow*n, but a whole town on the other side of the city, which is swiftly increasing every day. And must all these fine buildings be burnt up!

Thursday 4. I went on to *Bristol*, where I found a people ready prepared for the Lord. The preachers are in earnest, the fruit of which plainly appears in the congregation. Friday 5. Hearing Mr. *W—* of *Belton* was dying, I went over and spent an hour with him. His spirit was much comforted, and in a few days he was nearly as well as ever. Sat. 6. I preached in the evening at *Temple church*: Mr. *Easterbrook* has lately been very ill. But God has again lifted up his head to be a father to the poor a little longer.

Sunday 7. I preached at the room morning and evening, and in the afternoon at *Kingswood*. Just as I concluded my sermon in the room, a lady came in her carriage in all haste, and finding the sermon was over, earnestly desired to stay at the Society. Afterwards she importuned me much, to call on her at the Hot Wells, where her husband Governor *J.* died two years ago. On Friday evening I was at *Kingswood*, and preached to such a congregation, as I have not seen there on a week day for forty years, unless it was a watch-night. Sat. 13. I spent two hours with her at *Granby-house*, and answered all her questions. She appeared quite willing to know the truth, and to be altogether a Christian, and vehemently desired, if our lives were prolonged, that I would visit her in *London*. But if we should
live,

live, would she then be willing to see me? If she is, it would be a miracle indeed.

This week I visited the Classes in *Bristol*. I wonder we do not increase in number, although many are convinced, many justified, and a few perfected in love: I can impute the want of increase to nothing but want of self-denial. Without this indeed, whatever other helps they have, no believers can go forward.

Sunday 14. was a comfortable day. In the morning I met the *Strangers Society*, instituted wholly by our Society, for the relief of poor, sick, friendless *Strangers*. I do not know that I ever heard or read of such an institution, till within a few years ago. So this also is one of the fruits of Methodism.

Monday 15. I set out early and dined at *Stroud*; but in the evening we knew not what to do. The preaching-house was far too small, to contain the congregation; so that several hundreds (it was supposed) were obliged to go away. But the power of God remained with us. And great was our rejoicing in him.

Tuesday 16. At noon I preached at *Painswick*, to as many as the house would contain; in the evening at *Gloucester*, we had a large multitude; but many of them would neither hear nor let others hear. Indeed they that sat in the galleries could hear well; but very few of them that were below.

Wed. 17. In the way to *Tewksbury*, at the earnest desire of *Francis Proter*, I called on him and his five daughters, (all grown up,) who are lately joined to that Society. All of whom are now in great earnest, and bid fair to adorn the gospel of God our Saviour. I preached at *Tewksbury* about twelve; but here also the house would not contain the congregation. We went on to *Worcester* in the afternoon, and found much comfort among a well established people. They have no jars now, but all hold the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.

Thursday

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Thursday 18. We went on to *Stourport*, which is now full twice as large as it was two years ago. The first chapel was built about three years ago, by the joint contributions of Arminians and Calvinists, agreeing that they should preach by turns. But in a short time the poor Arminians were locked out. On this one or two gentlemen built another, far larger and more commodious. But it was not large enough to contain them in the evening, to whom I explained that solemn passage in the Revelation, *I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God*. They seemed to be all serious and attentive, as long as I was speaking. But the moment I ceased, fourscore or one hundred began talking all at once. I do not remember ever to have been present at such a scene before. This must be amended. Otherwise (if I should live) I will see *Stourport* no more.

Friday 19. About eleven, coming to *Quinton*, I found a congregation waiting for me. I preached immediately on, *We love him, because he first loved us*: and then went to *Birmingham*, which I think is thrice as large as when I saw it fifty years ago.

The congregation in the evening were well squeezed together, and most of them got in. The behaviour of the rich and poor is such, as does honour to their profession, so decent, so serious, so devout, from the beginning to the end! It was the same the next evening. Sunday 21, the prayers began at the new house, about half an hour after ten. It is a little larger than the new house at *Brompton*, and admirably well constructed. But several hundreds, I suppose, could not get in. I think all who did, found that God was there. The great house likewise in the evening was insufficient to contain the congregation. But God is able to supply this want also: and his time is best.

Monday 22. I went on to our old friends at *Wedgebury*, where the work of God greatly re-
vives,

vives. Business has exceedingly decreased, and most of them have left the town. So much the more have the poor grown in grace, and laid up treasure in heaven. But we were at a great loss in the evening. I could not preach abroad after sun-set, and the house would not near contain the people. However as many as possibly could squeezed in. And their labour was not in vain.

Tuesday 23. About one I preached in the new house at *Dudley*, one of the neatest in *England*. It was a profitable season, where two persons, they informed me, found peace with God. We had a pleasant ride to *Wolverhampton*. This evening the rain began and continued about twenty hours, after more than four and twenty weeks of fair weather, such a winter as I never saw before.

A melancholy event fell out the day before. The Mistress of the house adjoining, boiling some varnish, it boiled over, and took fire, which seized on her, and burnt her so that her life is despaired of.

The rain a little lessened our congregation, so that the house contained us tolerably well. And many even of the genteel hearers seemed almost persuaded, not to halt between two opinions.

Wed. 24. We rode to *Madeley*, through a pleasant rain, which did not hinder the church from being thoroughly filled. And I believe all who had spiritual discernment perceived, that it was filled with the presence of God. Thursday 25, at nine I preached to a select congregation, on the deep things of God: and in the evening, on *He is able to save unto the uttermost, all them that come unto God through him*. Friday 26, I finished my Sermon on the *Wedding Garment*. Perhaps the last that I shall write. My eyes are now waxed dim. My natural force is abated. However, while I can, I would fain do a little for God, before I drop into the dust.

In the evening, I preached to a crowded audience at *Salop*, on *Acquaint thyself now with him,*
and

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and be at peace. But I was much ashamed for them. The moment I had done speaking, I suppose fifty of them were talking all at once. And no wonder, they had neither sense nor good manners : for "they were *gentle folks* !"

Saturday 27. I preached in the evening to a sensible and well behaved congregation, at *Newcastle-under-Lyne*. (Observe, that is the name of the river, which runs above the town,) Sunday 28, I preached soon after one in Mr. *Myat's* yard, at *Lane-End* : the house would not have contained a quarter of the people. At *Borslem* also I was obliged to preach abroad. Surely the people of this place were highly favoured. Mercy embraced them on every side.

Monday 29. At nine I preached in the New-Chapel at *Tunstal*, the most elegant I have seen since I left *Bath*. My text was, *Let us go on unto perfection* : and the people seemed to devour the word. In the evening I preached at *Congleton*. The Minister, the Mayor, and all the heads of the town were present. So that I might not overshoot them, I preached on Psa. xc. 12. As I believe, God applied it to their hearts.

Tuesday 30. I went on to *Macclesfield*, and preached to a crowded audience, both this and the following night. On Thursday I went to *Stockport*. A large congregation was ready at six in the evening. In the morning, on Good-Friday, we went on to *Oldham*. The new house would in no wise contain the congregation : but I preached to as many as it would contain, on 1 Cor. vi. 19. and at *Manchester* in the evening April 3, on Heb. iv. 14.

Easter-Day, I think we had about one thousand six hundred communicants. I preached both morning and evening, without weariness, and in the evening lay down in peace.

Monday 5. Calling at *Altringham*, I was desired to speak a few words to the people in the New-Chapel. But almost as soon as I got thither, the house was filled, and soon after more than filled.

So I preached on 1 Pet. i. 3. and many praised God with joyful lips. About twelve I preached in the chapel at *Northwich*, to a large and very lively congregation. And in the evening met once more with our old affectionate friends at *Chester*. I have never seen this chapel more crowded than to-night; but still it could not near contain the congregation. Both this and the following evening I was greatly assisted to declare the power of Christ's resurrection, and to exhort all that were *risen with him*, to set their affections on the things above.

Here I met with one of the most extraordinary Phenomena, that I ever saw or heard of. Mr. *Sellers* has in his yard a large Newfoundland Dog, and an old Raven. These have fallen deeply in love with each other, and never desire to be apart. The bird has learned the bark of the Dog, so that few can distinguish them. She is inconsolable when he goes out, and if he stays out a day or two, she will get up all the bones and scraps she can, and hoard them up for him, till he comes back.

Wed. 7. About eleven I preached at *Warrington*. The chapel was well filled with serious hearers. But the great congregation was at *Liverpool*. If those without were added to those within, I believe it would have exceeded even that at *Manchester*. And surely the power of God was present with them also.

Thursday 8. Such another congregation we had on Thursday, among whom were many that had never been there before. They seemed utterly amazed when I explained, *Now faith is the evidence of things unseen*. I believe many were then convinced: but alas! how soon will that conviction die away!

Friday 9. We went to *Wigan*, for many years proverbially called wicked *Wigan*. But it is not now what it was. The inhabitants in general have taken a softer mould. The house in the evening was more than filled, and all that could get

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get in seemed to be greatly affected, while I strongly applied our Lord's words, *I will, be thou clean!* Sat. 10, I crossed over to *Northwich*, and again found the wisdom of judging before the time. The removal which I used to ascribe to *caprice*, I find was the effect of necessity. A wretched man, who had persuaded his father-in-law to give the staff out of his own hands, now abridges him of half his five hundred a year: and has the conscience to take fifty pounds a year out of the remainder, for the board of his son, apprenticed to him! In the evening I preached in the lovely house at *Bolton*, to one of the loveliest congregations in *England*, who by patient continuance in well doing, have turned scorn and hatred into general esteem and good will.

[Part of the manuscript is lost, which causes a chasm here.]

Monday, May 24. We set out at four and reached *Forghen* about noon: the face of the country is much changed for the better, since I was here before. Agriculture increases on every side: so do manufactories, industry, and cleanliness.

But I found poor Lady *B.* (one of the most amiable women in the kingdom,) exceeding ill, and I doubt whether she will be much better till she removes to her own country. I spent a very agreeable afternoon with the lovely family, and preached to a serious congregation in the evening. Tuesday 25, we returned to *Aberdeen* and I took a solemn farewell of a crowded audience. If I should be permitted to see them again, well: If not, I have delivered my own soul.

Wed. 26. Taking the midland road, we spent an hour at *Lawrence Kirk*, which from an inconsiderable village, is by the care and power of Lord *Gordon*, soon sprung up into a pleasant, neat, and flourishing town. His Lordship has also erected a little library here, adjoining to a handsome and well furnished inn. The country from hence to *Brechin* is as pleasant as a garden: happy would *Scotland* be, if it had many such gentlemen

and noblemen ! In the evening I began preaching at *Brechin* in the freeman's lodge : but I was so faint and ill that I was obliged to shorten my discourse. Thursday 27. We went on through *Forfar* (now a handsome and almost new town) and *Couper*, to *Auchterarder* ; here we expected poor accommodations, but were agreeably disappointed. Food, beds, and every thing else were as neat and clean as at *Aberdeen* or *Edinburgh*.

Friday 28. We travelled through a delightful country, by *Sterling* and *Kilsythe* to *Glasgow*. The congregation was miserably small : verifying what I had often heard before, " That the Scots dearly love the word of the Lord—on the Lord's day." If I live to come again, I will take care to spend only the Lord's day at *Glasgow*.

Monday 31. We set out at two and came to *Moffat* soon after three in the afternoon. Taking fresh horses, we reached *Dumfries*, between six and seven, and found the congregation waiting : I preached on Mark iii. 35.

Tuesday, June 1. Mr. *Mather* had a good congregation at five. In the day I conversed with many persons, a candid, humane, well behaved people, unlike most that I have found in *Scotland*. In the evening the house was filled, and truly God preached to their hearts.

Wed. 2. We set out early and reached *Carlisle* about noon. The work a little increases here. A small handful of people stand firm, and those that opposed are broken to pieces. Our house would not near contain the congregation, and the word of God was with power. Thursday 3. We rode to *Hexham*, through one of the pleasantest countries that I have lately seen. The road lay (from *Haisle*) on the side of a fruitful mountain, shaded with trees, and sloping down to a clear river, which ran between ours and another fruitful mountain, well wooded and improved. At *Hexham* they have lately built a convenient preaching-house : but it is too small already. Here is a loving people, much alive to God, and consequently

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consequently increasing daily. Friday 4. We reached *Newcastle*. In this and *Kingswood* house, were I to do my own will, I should chuse to spend the short remainder of my days. But it cannot be: this is not my rest! This and the next evening we had a numerous congregation. And the people seemed much alive.

Sunday 6. I was invited to preach in *Lemsley* church, on the side of *Gateshead-Fell*. But some hours after the Minister changed his mind. So I preached in our own house, which contained the greater part of the congregation tolerably well; among whom were Sir *Henry Lyddal* and his Lady, with a great number of his servants. The chapel was hot as a stove; but neither high nor low seemed to regard it: for God was there! The orphan house was equally crowded in the evening: but the rain would not suffer me to preach abroad.

Monday 7. I transcribed the stations of the Preachers. Tuesday 8. I wrote a form for settling the preaching houses, without any superfluous words, which shall be used for the time to come verbatim for all the houses to which I contribute any thing. I will no more encourage that villainous tautology of lawyers, which is the scandal of our nation. In the evening I preached to the children of our Sunday school; six or seven hundred of whom were present. N. B. None of our masters or mistresses teach for pay: they seek a reward that man cannot give.

Wed. 9. Having dispatched all the business I had to do here, in the evening I took a solemn leave of this lovely people, perhaps never to see them more in this life, and set out early in the morning. About noon I preached at *Woelfingham* in a house thoroughly filled, on *Isaiah xxxv. 8.* and in the evening in *Waredale*. The same spirit was still in the congregation, that has been for many years. And many felt, the Lord's hand is not shortened that he cannot save, nor his ear heavy that he cannot hear.

Friday

Friday 11. About seven I preached at *Stanhope*: but no house would contain the congregation. So I stood in a broad place near the church, and enforced, *If any man thirst, let him come unto me and drink.* In going through *Woolfingham* we called at Mr. *W's*, who was in low circumstances, till a few years ago, when many thousands were heaped upon him unawares. And yet he seems to walk unhurt in fire! What is too hard for God?

Hence we went on to *Durham*. Here likewise I was obliged to preach in the open air, to a multitude of people, all of whom were serious and attentive. Sat. 12. We went through a lovely country to *Sunderland*, where I preached in the evening to a numerous congregation. Sunday 13. In the morning, I preached a charity sermon in *Monk-Wearmouth* church, for the Sunday-school, which has already cleared the streets of all the children that used to play there on a Sunday from morning to evening. I preached at five near the *Pens*, to several thousands of people. Here it is plain, our labour has not been in vain.

Monday 14. In the evening I preached to as many as the town-hall would contain at *Hartlepool*. Tuesday 15. I received a farther account of Mrs. *Buchan*, from two that had lived with her a year and a quarter: and was thoroughly convinced, That she is a woman of strong sense, and a lively imagination; but that she is given up to a strong delusion, (whether natural or diabolical, I know not) to believe a lie. One proof may suffice. Some time since, she told the community as from God, that the day of judgment would begin that evening. But how could she come off, when the event did not answer? Easily enough, "*Moses*, said she, could not see the face of God, till he had fasted forty days and forty nights. We must all do the same." So for three weeks they took no sustenance, but three gills of water per day: and three weeks more they took each three gills of water-gruel per day. What a mercy

that

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that half of them did not die in making the experiment !

About noon I preached abroad to a large congregation, and in the afternoon went on to *Stockton*. The congregation was at least double to that at *Stockton*, all of whom seemed to feel that God was there. Wed. 16. I preached in the main street at *Yarm*, to a dull, attentive people, Thursday 17. About noon I preached at *Potto*, to a deeply serious congregation, and to another such in the evening at *Hutton Rudby*. Twenty years this Society was a pattern to all the country, for seriousness and deep devotion. I think seventeen of them were perfected in love. But only three of them remain, and most of the rest, are either removed or grown cold and dead.

Friday 18. I preached at *Stokesley* in the morning, and then went on to *Whitby*. It was very providential, that part of the adjoining mountain fell down, and demolished our old preaching-house with many houses besides, by which means we have one of the most beautiful chapels in *Great Britain*, finely situated on the steep side of the mountain. At six it was pretty well filled, with such a congregation of plain earnest people, as is not often seen. I conversed with many of them the next day, who were much alive to God, Sunday 20. The house contained us at seven tolerably well. The church likewise was well filled: in the evening, we were much straitened for room, but as many as could hear, stood on the pavement without. In all *England* I have not seen a more affectionate people than those at *Whitby*.

Monday 21. Being importuned by our friends at *Malton* to call there, (it being but about thirty miles out of the way,) I set out early, to prevent the heat of the day. Calling at *Pickering*, some of the Society soon found me out, with whom I went to the preaching-house, which was full enough in a few minutes time. So was the house at *Malton* in the evening, where I found the
Society

Society more loving and united together than they have been for many years.

Tuesday 22. I crossed over to *Scarborough*. The congregation in the evening was unusually small, being not yet recovered from the blessed fruits of the election. This was the hottest day we have had this year. About one in the afternoon, the thunder, which had long laid at a distance, came near, with thick flashes of lightning and impetuous rain. The thunder continued in one roll, for an hour and a quarter. I never heard the like before since my return from *America*. Thursday 24. The dissenting minister offering me the use of his chapel in *Burlington*, twice as large as our own, (the wind being too high for me to stand abroad) I willingly accepted his offer. Friday 25. About noon I preached at *Beverley*, to a serious well-behaved congregation, and in the evening to one equally serious, and far more numerous at *Hull*.

Sunday 27, was a day of satisfaction. I preached at seven in the morning, and at six in the evening, to as many as our house could contain, the ground being too wet for the congregation to stand abroad. Monday 28. This day I enter into my eighty-eighth year. For above eighty-six years, I found none of the infirmities of old age, my eyes did not wax dim, neither was my natural strength abated. But last August I found almost a sudden change, my eyes were so dim that no glasses would help me. My strength likewise now quite forsook me, and probably will not return in this world. But I feel no pain from head to foot, only it seems nature is exhausted, and humanly speaking, will sink more and more, till

“ The weary springs of life stand still at last.”

Tuesday 29. I crossed over through *Epworth* to *Ouston*, and passed a comfortable day with many of the Preachers. This, which was one of the
last

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last Societies in the circuit, is now become first, in grace as well as number. The new preaching-house not being able to contain one half of the congregation, I preached abroad in the calm, mild evening, and I believe God applied his word to many hearts.

Thursday, July 1. I went to *Lincoln*. After dinner we took a walk in and round the minster, which I really think is more elegant than that at *York*, in various parts of the structure, as well as in its admirable situation. The new house was thoroughly filled in the evening, and with hearers uncommonly serious. There seems to be a remarkable difference between the people of *Lincoln* and those of *York*. They have not so much fire and vigour of spirit, but far more mildness and gentleness, by means of which, if they had the same outward helps, they would probably excel their neighbours.

Some miles short of *Lincoln*, our post-boy stopped at an inn on the road, to give his horses a little water. As soon as we went in, the inn-keeper burst into tears, as did his wife, wringing her hands and weeping bitterly. What, he said, are you come into my house? My father is *John Lister*, of *Epworth*. I found both he and his wife had been of our Society. We spent some time in prayer together, and I trust not in vain.

Friday 2. About eleven I preached at *Newton*; but the house would not contain half the congregation. No rain fell during the time of preaching, but it rained both before and after. I was struck with the Preaching-house at *Gainsborough*: (one of the handsomest towns in *Lincolnshire*) so neat, so elegant! Just taking up one side of a small neat square. I found uncommon liberty of speech, and received it as a token for good. Surely this poor Society which has been so miserably depressed, will again lift up its head. Sat. 3. I reached *Epworth*, and after preaching in the evening met the Society, and reminded them of what they were some years ago, and what they are now:

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scarce retaining the shadow of their former zeal, and activity in all the ways of God.

Sunday 4. I went over to *Misterton*, where likewise the work of God was exceedingly decayed. The house being far too small to contain the multitude of people, I stood under a spreading tree, and strongly exhorted them, to *strengthen the things that remained, which were ready to die*. Thence I hastened back to *Epworth*, but I could not reach it till the church service was begun. It was observed, Mr. *Gibson* read the prayers with unusual solemnity. And I believe he was not displeased, to see five times as many at church, and ten times as many at the Lord's table as usual. As soon as the afternoon service ended, I began in the market-place, to press that awful question, *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?* On such a congregation as was never seen at *Epworth* before.

[*The Conference was this year at Bristol. But the Manuscript is deficient here.*]

Friday, August 27. I returned to *Bristol*. In the evening, and at the watch-night the house was sufficiently filled. Finding the account of Mrs. *Scudamore's* life and death (an excellent woman though mistaken in this point,) has revived in some the imagination of the expiatory nature of sufferings, and thence their absolute necessity to salvation, I discussed the subject at large, and shewed that both these notions had their rise in popery, and that neither the one nor the other of them had any foundation in scripture.

Sunday 29. Mr. *Baddiley* being gone to the North, I had none to assist in the service, and I could not read the prayers myself. So I was obliged to shorten the service, which brought the prayers, sermon, and Lord's supper, within the compass of three hours. I preached in the afternoon near *King's Square*, and the hearts of the people bowed down before the Lord.

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Monday 30. About noon I preached at *Casslebury*. Since I was here God has taken to himself that amiable woman, Mrs. *Clark*, who to a fine person and a good understanding, joined a very uncommon degree of deep religion. This inclined me to apply earnestly Eccles. ix. 10. And all the people seemed to feel it. Afterwards I called on her deeply afflicted husband, who spent some hours with us the next day. I hope he will no longer sorrow as one without hope, but will trust to meet her in a better place. In the evening I preached in the new house at *Ditchet*. It would not hold the congregation, but many could hear at the windows, which they seemed right willing to do : a flame appears to be kindled here already. God grant it may continue and increase !

Tuesday 31. *William Kingston*, the man born without arms, came to see me of his own accord. Some time since he received a clear sense of the favour of God : but after a few months he was persuaded by some of his old companions, to join in a favourite diversion, whereby he lost sight of God, and gave up all he had gained. But God now touched his heart again, and he is once more in earnest to save his soul. He is of a middling height and size, has a pleasing look and voice, and an easy agreeable behaviour. At breakfast he shook off his shoes, which are made on purpose, took the tea-cup between his toes, and the toast with his other foot. He likewise writes a fair hand, and does most things with his feet, which we do with our hands. About noon I preached to a lovely congregation at *Shepton Mallet*, and in the evening at *Pensford*. The house was crowded with earnest hearers, and I trust the word did not fall to the ground.

Wed. Sept. 1. I returned to *Bristol* ; and it being the first day of the fair, I spoke strongly from the words of *Solomon*, *Buy the truth and sell it not*. In the two following days, I corrected and abridged the account of that excellent wo-

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man, Mrs. Scudamore : a burning and shining light, till the mystics persuaded her to put her light under a bushel : so that for above two years she renounced all conversation with even her pious friends ! How does this agree with Scripture ? *All my delight is in the saints that are on the earth, and with them that excel in virtue !* How far was the experience of *Jane Cooper*, or *Elizabeth Harper*, preferable to that of such a solitary !

Sat. 4. I went to *Bath*, and preached in the evening to a serious but small congregation, for want of notice. Sunday 5, at ten we had a numerous congregation, and more communicants than ever I saw here before. This day I cut off that vile custom, I know not when or how it began, of preaching three times a day by the same Preacher, to the same congregation : enough to weary out both the bodies and minds of the speaker, as well as his hearers. Surely God is returning to this Society ! They are now in earnest to make their calling and election sure.

Monday 6. This evening the congregation was almost as large as it was the night before ; and the power of God was mightily present. And so it was on Tuesday and Wed. evening at *Bristol*. Thursday 9. I read over the experience of *Joseph Humphrys*, the first Lay-Preacher that assisted me in *England*, in the year 1738. From his own mouth I learn, that he was perfected in love, and so continued for at least a twelvemonth. Afterwards he turned Calvinist, and found Mr. *Whitfield*, and published an invective against my brother and me in the News-Paper. In a while he renounced Mr. *Whitfield*, and was ordained a Presbyterian Minister. At last he received Episcopal Ordination. He then scoffed at inward religion, and when reminded of his own experience replied, " That was one of the foolish things, which I wrote in the time of my madness ! "

Friday 10. I preached to a large congregation at *Chew-Stoke*, nine miles from *Bristol*, on those words

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words in the second lesson, *Come unto me, all ye that are weary and heavy laden* : and in the evening at Mrs. Griffith's house.

Sunday 12. I intended to preach abroad : but the weather would not permit. Monday 13, and the three following days I met the Classes of the Society, which contains nine hundred and forty-four members.

Thursday 16. I was desired to see a monster, properly speaking. He was as large as the largest Lion in the Tower, but covered with rough hair of a brown colour, has the head of a Swine, and feet like a Mole. He lives on fruit and bread : chiefly the latter. The Keeper handles him as he pleases, putting his hand in his mouth, and taking hold of his tongue. But he has a horrible roar, between that of a Lion and of a Bull,

At the same time I saw a Pelican ! Is it not strange that we have no true account, or picture of this bird ! It is one of the most beautiful in nature, being indeed a large Swan, almost twice as big as a tame one ; snow white and elegantly shaped. Only its neck is three quarters of a yard long, and capable of being so distended, as to contain two gallons of liquid or solid. She builds her nest in some wood, not far from a river, from which she daily brings a quantity of fish to her young ; this she carries in her neck (the only pouch which she has) and then divides it among her young. And hence is fabricated the idle tale of her feeding them with her blood.

Friday 17. I went over to Thornbury, and preached at noon to a very large and deeply serious congregation. In the evening we had a solemn Watch-night at Kingswood. Saturday 18, I called upon Mr. Easterbrook, ill of a disorder which no Physician understands, and which it seems God alone can cure. He is a pattern to all Bristol, and indeed to all England, having (beside his other incessant labours, which never were intermitted) preached in every house in his parish.

It was while he was preaching in his own church, that he was suddenly struck with a violent pain in his breast. This confounds all the Physicians, and none of their medicines alter it.

Sunday 9. Mr. Collins assisted me in the morning, so I had an easy day's work. Monday 20, and the next day I read over the King of Sweden's Tract, upon the Ballance of Power in Europe. If it be really his, he is certainly one of the most sensible, as well as one of the bravest Princes in Europe. And if his account be true, what a woman is the Czarina ! But still God is over all !

Wed. 22. I preached once more in Temple church, on *All things are possible to him that believeth.*

Sat. 25. Mr. Hay, the Presbyterian Minister of *Leven's-Mead* Meeting, came to desire me to let him have the use of our Preaching-house on Sundays, at those hours when we did not use it ourselves (near ten in the morning and two in the afternoon) while his house was rebuilding. To this I willingly consented, and he preached an excellent sermon there the next day at two. I preached at five in the morning to more than the house would well contain.

Monday 27. I left *Bristol*, and about eleven preached in the *Devizes*, and in the evening at *Salisbury*. I do not know that ever I saw the house so crowded before, with high and low, rich and poor : so that I hope we shall again see fruit here also.

Wed. 29, about noon I preached at *Winchester*. The congregation was larger than usual, and what was stranger still, seemed not a little affected ! How long have we cast our bread upon the waters here ! And shall we find it again after many days ? In the evening I preached to a crowded and deeply attentive congregation at *Portsmouth-Commons*. Thursday 30. It being a lovely morning, we went in a wherry, through

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Cowes-harbour, to *Newport*, one of the pleasantest towns in the king's dominions. Both the nights I preached here, the house would by no means contain the congregation. I was likewise well pleased with the poor, plain, artless Society. Here at least, we have not lost our labour.

Friday, October 1. we purposed to return to *Portsmouth*, (about twenty miles, it being a calm, sunshiny morning) in the wherry we came. But a friend offering us a kind of hoy, we willingly accepted his offer. It was well he did: for as soon as we were out of the harbour; the wind rose and the sea raged horribly. The wherry would soon have been swallowed up. The waves washed over us on both sides. Having no decks, we were well soaked from head to foot, but before noon, we got safe to *Portsmouth*.

Sat. 2. Setting out as usual, at two, we came to *Cobham*, between ten and eleven, and found a party of our friends from *London*, ready to receive us. We walked an hour in the gardens: but the innkeeper informed us, "Strangers were not admitted unless on Tuesday and Friday." However hearing Mr. *Hopkins* was at home, I sent in my name, and desired that favour, which was immediately granted. We spent an hour very agreeably in those lovely walks; but still the eye was not satisfied with seeing. The soul of an immortal Spirit can be satisfied with nothing but seeing God. In the afternoon we went on to *London*.

Sunday 3. was indeed a comfortable day. I preached at the New Chapel, morning and evening with great enlargement of spirit. At the love-feast which followed, great was our rejoicing: many declared what God had done for their souls. And many were filled with consolation.

Having answered my letters and finished my other little business for the present, on Tuesday the 5th. I went to *Rye*. Though the warning was short, the congregation was exceeding large,

and behaved with remarkable seriousness. While our people mixt with the Calvinists here, we were always perplexed and gained no ground. But since they kept to themselves they have continually increased, in grace as well as in number. I was now informed, how signally God had overtaken that wretch who murdered Mr. *Haddock* some years since. Being lately overtaken by Captain *Bray* in one of the King's Cutters, he made a desperate resistance. And even when boarded, fought still, and drew a pistol at Captain *Bray*, who then hewed him in pieces with his cutlafs.

Thursday 7. I went over to that poor skeleton of ancient *Winchelsea*. It is beautifully situated on the top of a steep hill, and was regularly built in broad streets crossing each other and encompassing a very large square, in the midst of which was a large church, now in ruins. I stood under a large tree, on the side of it, and called most of the inhabitants of the town. *The kingdom of heaven is at hand: repent and believe the Gospel.* It seemed, as if all that heard, were for the present almost persuaded to be christians.

Here an eminently pious woman Mrs. *Jones*, at whose house I stopped, gave me a very strange account. Many years since she was much hurt in lying-in. She had various physicians, but still grew worse and worse, till perceiving herself to be no better, she left them off. She had a continual pain in her groin with such a prolapsus uteri, as soon confined her to her bed: there she lay two months, helpless and hopeless; till a thought came one day into her mind, *Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me whole: Be it according to thy will.* Immediately the pain and the disorder ceased: feeling herself well, she rose and dressed herself. Her husband coming in, and seeing her in tears, asked, Are those tears of serious joy? She said, "Of joy!" On which they wept together. From that hour she has felt no pain, but enjoyed perfect

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perfect health. I think our Lord never wrought a plainer miracle, even in the days of his flesh.

In the evening I preached once more at *Rye*, and the word did not fall to the ground. In the morning we left this loving well united people, and dined at *Sevenoaks*. After dinner we spent an hour in the Duke of *Dorset's* house. I could not but observe some change for the worse here; The silk covers are removed from several of the pictures, particularly that of Count *Agolino* and his sons. And it is placed in a worse light; so that I could hardly discern the little boy, that when he saw his father gnawing his own arm for anguish, cried out, "Papa, if you are hungry, do not eat your own arm, but mine." The preaching-house was filled in the evening with people, and with the presence of God.

Sat. 9. We returned to *London*. Monday 11, I went on to *Cotchester*, and still found matter of humiliation. The society was lessened and cold enough. Preaching again was discontinued, and the spirit of Methodism quite gone, both from the Preachers and the people! yet we had a wonderful congregation in the evening, rich and poor, Clergy and Laity. So we had likewise on Tuesday evening. So that I trust God will at length build up the waste places.

Wed. 13. We set out early, but found no horses at *Cobdock*, so that we were obliged to go round by *Ipswich*, and wait there half an hour. Nevertheless we got to *Norwich* between two and three. In the way we read Captain *Carver's* Travels, admirably well wrote, and giving I believe a just account of the interior parts of *North America*. To see nature in perfection, we need only look on the savages at *Fort William Henry*, butchering in cold blood so many hundreds of helpless unresisting men, in the very spirit of the old murderer.

In the evening I preached at *Norwich*. But the house would in no wise contain the congregation. How wonderfully is the tide turned! I

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am become an honourable man at *Norwich*. God has at length made our enemies to be at peace with us, and scarce any but Antinomians open their mouth against us.

Thursday 14. I went to *Yarmouth* and at length found the Society in peace and much united together. In the evening the congregation was too large to get into the Preaching-house: yet they were far less noisy than usual. After supper a little company went to prayer, and the power of God fell upon us; especially when a young woman broke out into prayer, to the surprize and comfort of us all. Friday 15. I went to *Leostoff*, to a steady, loving, well-united Society. The more strange it is, that they neither increase nor decrease in number. Sat. 16. I preached at *Loddon* about one, and at six in *Norwich*. Sunday 17. At seven I administered the Lord's Supper to about one hundred and fifty persons, near twice as many as we had last year: I take knowledge, that the last year's Preachers were in earnest. Afterwards we went to our own parish church, although there was no sermon there, nor at any of the thirty-six churches in the town, save the Cathedral and *St. Peter's*. I preached at two: when I had done Mr. *Horn* called upon me, who preached at the Cathedral in the morning, an agreeable man both in temper and person, and I believe, much alive to God. At half an hour after five I preached again to as many as the house would contain: and even those that could not get in, stayed more quiet and silent than ever I saw them before. Indeed they all seemed to know that God was there: And I have no doubt but he will revive his work here also.

Monday 18. No coach going out for *Lynn*, to day, I was obliged to take a post-chaise. But at *Deerham* no horses were to be had: so we were obliged to take the same horses to *Swaffham*. A congregation was ready here, that filled the house, and seemed quite willing to receive instruction.

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But here neither could we procure any post-horses; so that we were obliged to take a single horse chaise. The wind with misting rain came full in our faces, and we had nothing to screen us from it. So I was thoroughly chilled from head to foot, before I came to *Lynn*. But I soon forgot this little inconvenience, for which the earnestness of the congregation made me large amends.

Tuesday 19. In the evening all the clergymen in the town, except one who was lame were present at the preaching. They are all prejudiced in favour of the Methodists, as indeed are most of the townsmen: who give a fair proof, by contributing so much to our Sunday-schools, so that there is near twenty pounds in hand. Wed. 20. I had appointed to preach at *Disf*, a town near *Scoleton*. But the difficulty was, where I could preach? The Minister was willing I should preach in the church; but feared offending the Bishop, who going up to *London*, was within a few miles of the town. But a gentleman asking the Bishop whether he had any objection to it, was answered. "None at all." I think this church is one of the largest in the county. I suppose it has not been so filled these hundred years. This evening and the next I preached at *Bury* to a deeply attentive congregation, many of whom know in whom they have believed. So that here we have not lost all our labour! Friday 22, we returned to *London*.

Sunday 24. I explained to a numerous congregation in *Spitalfields* church, *The whole armour of God*. *St. Paul's, Shadwell*, was still more crowded in the afternoon, while I enforced that important truth, *One thing is needful*. And I hope many even then resolved to chuse the better part.

N. B. We are not sure that Mr. *Wesley* carried on his Journal any farther; but if any more of it should be found, it will be published in due time.
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There are unavoidable chafms in this Journal, owing to some parts being mislaid ; and it is probable that many of the proper names of persons and places are not properly spelt ; as the Manuscript was scarce legible.

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